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BY

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## PREFACE.

The first Labour Report issued by this Bureau was published in 1912. This Report is the thirty-ninth of the series and deals chiefly with 1950, in addition to providing comparisons for previous years. Some of the tabulations, however, include particulars relating to 1951.

The Report follows the lines of its immediate predecessors in scope and arrangement. The subject-matter has been divided into five Chapters, viz., Retail Prices and Price Indexes; Wholesale Prices and Price Indexes; Wages and Hours; Employment and Unemployment (including Industrial Disputes); and Labour Organizations. The index at the end of the volume will considerably facilitate reference.

In tabulating the results of investigations as to rates of wage, labour organizations, unemployment, industrial disputes, &c., the following grouping has been adopted in this Report:—

### Groups of Industries and Occupations.

I.	Wood, Furniture, Sawmills, Timber-works, &c.	VIII.	Mining, Quarrying, &c.
II.	Engineering, Metal Works, &c.	IX.	Railway and Tramway Services.
III.	Food, Drink, and Tobacco—Manufacture and Distribution.	X.	Other Land Transport.
IV.	Clothing, Textiles, &c.	XI.	Shipping, Wharf Labour, &c.
V.	Books, Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	XII.	Pastoral, Agricultural, Rural, Horticultural, &c.
VI.	Other Manufacturing.	XIII.	Domestic, Hotels, &c.
VII.	Building.	XIV.	Miscellaneous.

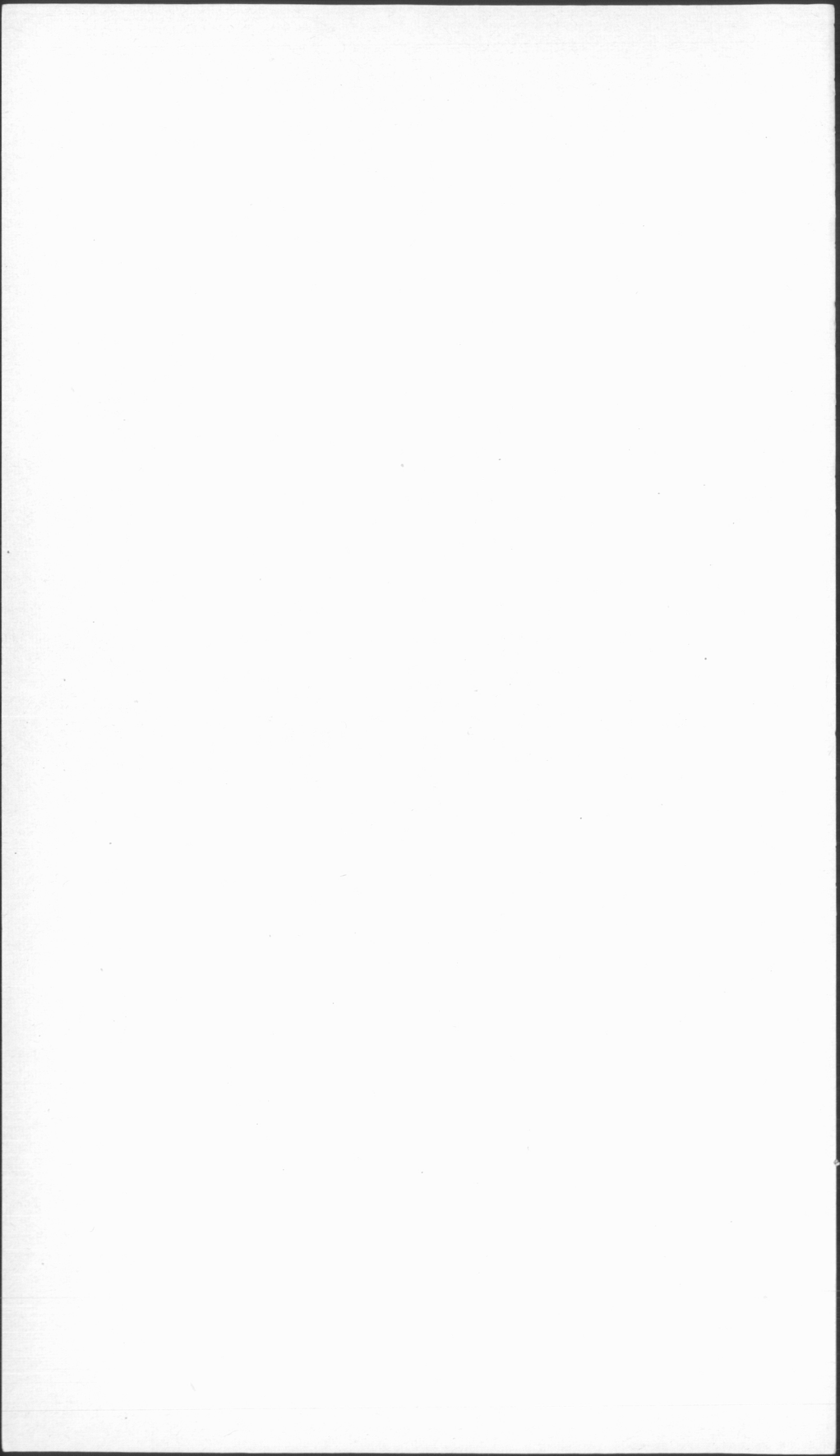
Secretaries of trade unions and of employers' associations, officials of Commonwealth and State Departments, private employers, retail traders, house agents, and others have readily supplied much information specially for the purposes of this Report, and my thanks are tendered to all who have thus assisted.

Grateful acknowledgment is also made of the continued assistance given by the Statistical Offices in the various States, especially in regard to the collection of retail prices.

I also desire to express my appreciation of the work done in the preparation of this Report by Mr. F. Stewart, B.Com., the Supervisor of the Prices Branch, Mr. T. J. Fallon, B.A., the Supervisor of the Employment and Labour Branch, and the staff under their control.

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## CHAPTER I.—RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1. Collection of Information as to Retail Prices.

The retail prices of the extensive range of commodities and services in common demand (generally referred to as the "regimen") used in compiling the All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index (*see* list on pages II-13 hereof) have been ascertained at frequent and regular intervals since 1923 for each of the six capital cities and for 27 of the more important towns of Australia. Comparable information is available for the month of November in each year 1914 to 1922 for each of the six capital cities.

The retail prices of food and groceries in approximately 200 towns throughout Australia were collected as at November of each year from 1913 to 1942 when collection was discontinued.

Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses for earlier years extending back to 1901 were collected by this Bureau, and in some cases have been recorded by the Statisticians of various States as far back as 1864.

The methods by which prices used in the "C" Series Index are ascertained and the measures adopted to ensure their accuracy and comparability are briefly as follows:—

- (i) Representative and reputable retailers are selected for each city and town covered by the index and each is required to furnish information as to prices monthly in respect of food and groceries and quarterly in respect of other items. Prices for each item are obtained where practicable from ten or more retailers in each of the capital cities, and from five or more retailers in each of the provincial towns. To cover all commodities in the regimen, collection is made from approximately 60 retailers in each capital city and 30 in each provincial town.
- (ii) Information is collected under authority of the *Census and Statistics Act* 1905-1949 which requires that information be supplied accurately and promptly and ensures that particulars supplied by individual retailers will not be divulged to any other person or Government authority. Penalties are provided against failure to supply information, against supplying false information and against failure to answer truthfully any question asked by an authorized officer in respect of the contents of any return.
- (iii) The actual collection of returns is carried out by qualified Field Officers of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics working under the supervision of the Statisticians of the respective States. These Field Officers have very wide powers of investigation, including entry of premises and inspection of goods, records, etc.
- (iv) The Field Officers not only receive and check returns but visit the retail shops concerned, whenever necessary, to obtain requisite information. In respect of articles of clothing and the like where variation of quality may be considerable Field Officers are equipped with samples of the goods used for price comparisons. In such cases the Field Officers visit every retail informant at each quarterly collection and personally inspect the relevant goods and prices thereof.



- (v) Before each quarterly collection Supervising Field Officers review the standards of the whole of the items for which prices are collected after making extensive inquiries among manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These Supervising Field Officers periodically accompany Field Officers at their price collections and check their work. This not only ensures accuracy and assiduity but also that all Field Officers work on uniform lines and that, as far as care and effort can make it possible, prices for identical goods and quality will be recorded at all times and for all places.
- (vi) The list of items in the regimen and the standards thereof are revised from time to time to keep them in harmony with changing conditions. Where such changes become necessary suitable adjustment is made in computing the retail price index to ensure that it reflects changes in price with due precision and that it is not vitiated by the influence of other changes. (*See also* § 9, p. 32 below.) Because of rapidly changing conditions since 1948, prices have been ascertained for a large number of items not embraced in the index and for an increasing number of types of "regimen" items. The purpose of this is to ensure that the index is kept representative and reliable within its definition.
- (vii) Returns of rents for unfurnished houses of four and five rooms are made at the middle of each quarter by a representative number (ranging up to 30) of house agents in each city and town covered by the index, for brick and wooden houses respectively, classified according to number of rooms. These returns show the weekly rental of a substantial number of individual houses each of which is selected by the Field Officer as suitable for inclusion in a sample designed to measure the quarterly ratio of change in weekly rentals. The aim is to measure variations equivalent to change in price for a constant standard. The ratio of change is used to vary basic average rentals derived from the Census of 1933 and other records and was checked with the results of the Census of 1947. Although expressed in money terms, the average rentals as published are essentially indexes. As such they do not necessarily indicate the average amount of rental actually paid for all rented houses, and still less do they indicate the rental at which vacant or new houses can be rented (*see* footnote on p. 10).

## § 2. Retail Price Indexes.

**1. General.**—The basic principle of a retail price index is relatively simple. It is to select commodities representative of the field to be covered and to combine their prices at regular intervals in accordance with their relative importance in that field. The aim is to measure the degree of change in prices for the selected field taken as a whole.

In practice the application of this principle over a term of years presents great difficulty by reason of the numerous changes which occur in the type, grade and relative quantities of many of the items commonly used.

A full explanation of the methods adopted and an analysis of problems involved is contained in the Appendix to Labour Report No. 9.

For convenience the group of selected items is called a "regimen", and the quantities consumed per annum of each item used in the index are called "mass units" or "weights". These terms are used herein. In compiling the index the price of each item is multiplied by its quantity "weight" and then by its appropriate population or household "weight". The sum of these products for all items at any given date represents an "aggregate expenditure". The "aggregate expenditures" for successive periods are converted into an index by denoting the aggregate of a selected or "base" period as 1000, and calculating all index-numbers to such base by the proportions which their aggregates bear to that of the base period. (See par. 2, p. 13.)

**2. Essential Features.**—Apart from clear thinking, common sense and sound arithmetic, the prime essentials in compiling a retail price index are—

- (a) that prices be accurately ascertained at regular intervals for goods of constant grade and quality;
- (b) that the regimen be as representative as possible of the field to be covered;
- (c) that the weights be in approximate proportion to quantities actually used in the selected field.

**3. The Regimen.**—The regimen must be a selected regimen because it is impossible in practice to ascertain at regular intervals prices of every item of goods and services entering into household expenditure. Even in normal times there is considerable difficulty in ensuring that the selected items are always a true sample. Some items which it would be desirable to include must be excluded because comparative prices cannot be accurately ascertained for them at different times and different places. It is deemed better to limit the regimen of the index to items for which price variations can be ascertained with reasonable accuracy than to distend the regimen by including items for which price comparisons are necessarily inaccurate. Similarly, many items of small aggregate or individual importance are excluded. The regimen of the index therefore is not (as is sometimes erroneously supposed) a basic wage regimen nor yet is it a full list of component items in a standard of living. It does not imply that any particular goods or any selected grades or quantities of these goods should enter into determination of a basic or living wage. In fact the regimen used for the "C" Series Index is simply a selected list of items combined in certain proportions for the purpose of measuring price variations. The items are representative of the fields covered, and the proportions approximate to those in average consumption so far as can be ascertained.

The regimen and "weights" used in the "C" Series Index are published in full on pages 11 to 13.

**4. Purpose of Retail Price Indexes.**—Retail price indexes are designed to measure the extent of changes in price levels only. While they may be used as indicating proportionate variations in cost of a *constant* standard of living, they do not measure the absolute cost of any standard of living, nor the cost of changes in the standard of living. In other words, they measure as nearly as may be the proportionate change in the aggregate cost of specified quantities and qualities of the selected regimen of items included in the index. The regimen is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households. (See top of page 37.)

5. **Effects of Abnormal Conditions on Indexes.**—Under abnormal conditions since 1940 scarcity of certain types of goods, erratic supply and changes of grades in common use have created unusual difficulty in obtaining the data necessary for measuring variations in prices. In some instances, this has rendered it necessary to substitute new grades, qualities or types of articles for those formerly used as indicators of changes in price. This has been the case more particularly in the clothing, household drapery and household utensils sections of the regimen. Substitutions of similar kind were necessary at times under normal conditions in order to meet changes of fashion and usage. Such substitutions are not injurious to the index provided the transitional difficulties can be solved as they arise. No change in principle is involved. The index continues to measure, as accurately as may be, price variations, and price variations only. Just as in the pre-war period, those differences in prices which are solely due to substitution of a new item for one which has ceased to be available or in common use are neutralized by taking the price of the old item as typical of price variation in its class up to the time of substitution, and the prices of the new item as typical of such changes in price thereafter.

In normal times, popular usage of items in general consumption changes slowly and the weight of items and groups in the regimen is changed only at long intervals. In abnormal times, scarcity of supplies of some goods, rationing and kindred factors actually produce short term changes in usage. The "weights" applicable to the items in the regimen cannot, however, be changed frequently and at short intervals. (See § 9 (5), page 35.)

### § 3. Various Retail Price Indexes.

Two main series of retail price index-numbers are compiled and shown in some detail in the following pages, namely:—

- (i) the "B" Series Index relating only to food, groceries and housing, continuously available from 1907;
- (ii) the "C" Series Index relating to food, groceries, housing, clothing, household drapery and utensils, fuel and light, and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure, continuously available from 1914.

The "B" Series Index comprises only the food, groceries and housing sections of the "C" Series Index. Reference is made on pages 37 to 40 of this Report to the "A" Series Index and the "D" Series Index (which are no longer compiled), the "Court" Series Index and various other series of retail price index-numbers.

The "C" Series Index in total provides a reliable measure of aggregate variations in retail prices (as well as of group indexes for component sections) of a high percentage of goods and services used in wage-earner households. This index is compiled for:—

- (a) the capital city of each of the six States,
- (b) four other principal towns in each of the six States,
- (c) weighted average of five towns (including capital city) in each of the six States,
- (d) weighted average for the Six Capital Cities combined,
- (e) weighted average for the Thirty Towns (including capital cities),
- (f) separate indexes for Warwick, Port Augusta, Whyalla and Canberra.

The "C" Series Index forms the basis of the "Court" Series Index used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the "cost of living" adjustments of wages prescribed by awards made by the Court. (See §§ 10 and 11 of this Chapter.)

#### § 4. Retail Price Levels ("C" Series Index) 1914-1951.

I. **Significant Dates.**—The aggregate indexes for November, 1914, 1921 and 1922, and the years 1923 to 1951, for the Thirty Towns are published in summary form on pages 21-23 hereof, while the following table furnishes the relevant index-numbers for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, for certain significant dates since November, 1914—the earliest date for which this index is available.

#### ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

##### WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX CAPITAL CITIES.

(Base: 1923-27 = 1,000.)

1914, November	..	..	687 (Beginning of War I.)
1918, November	..	..	905 (End of War I.)
1920, November	..	..	1,166 (Post-War peak)
1922, November	..	..	975 (Post-War trough)
1929, Year	..	..	1,033 (Pre-Depression peak)
1933, Year	..	..	804 (Depression trough)
1939, September Quarter	..	..	916 (Pre-War II.)
1943, March Quarter	..	..	1,123 (Pre-Price Stabilization)
1943, June Quarter	..	..	1,143 (War II. peak)
1945, September Quarter	..	..	1,126 (End of War II.)
1951, December Quarter..	..	..	2,042

The index reveals a rise of approximately 32 per cent. during the first world war, followed by a further rise of 29 per cent. in the two post-war years (November, 1918, to November, 1920). From November, 1920 to November, 1922, there was a fall of 16 per cent., and the index remained relatively stable until the onset of the depression in 1929. During the four years of the depression 1929 to 1933 the index fell by 22 per cent., rising thereafter steadily until 1939 when it was nearly 14 per cent. above the level of 1933, and approximately at the level it had occupied at the date of the Armistice of 1918. Between the outbreak of war (September, 1939) and March, 1943 (pre-price stabilization), the index rose by approximately 23 per cent. to a level slightly below that reached at the height of the post-war boom in 1920. Compared with March Quarter, 1943, the index-number at the close of the war was practically unchanged. At December Quarter, 1951, the level was approximately 75 per cent. above that of the 1920 peak period.

Immediately after the outbreak of the war price control was established by the Government under Regulations dated 28th September, 1939, and a national policy of price stabilization was applied as from 12th April, 1943, backed by more stringent price control and price subsidies. The retail price level, as measured by the index, remained relatively steady

throughout 1944 and 1945 at the level of March, 1943. This stabilized level was approximately 23 per cent. above that of 1939 and 63 per cent. above the level prevailing at the beginning of the first world war in 1914. Since June Quarter, 1946, war-time controls, subsidies, etc., have been progressively modified and inflationary influences have supervened. The retail price index for December Quarter 1951 was 123 per cent. above that of September Quarter 1939, and 81 per cent. above the level of September Quarter 1945.

An account of price control measures and of price stabilization in Australia was published in *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth* No. 37, pages 458-463 and No. 38, page 414.

2. All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index, Six Capital Cities, 1914-1951.—The movement in the various groups of the index, and in the index as a whole for each year for which it has been compiled is shown in the following table for the six capital cities as a whole:—

**All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its "Group" Index-Numbers (a)  
for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1951.**

(Base of Each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses). (b)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses) ("B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscell- aneous.	All Items ("C" Series) Index.
1914 (c)	641	649	644	754	749	687
1915 (c)	842	659	777	792	786	782
1916 (c)	812	665	760	881	802	795
1917 (c)	836	685	782	992	882	847
1918 (c)	861	722	812	1,097	972	905
1919 (c)	1,026	768	934	1,238	1,036	1,022
1920 (c)	1,209	851	1,082	1,365	1,194	1,166
1921 (c)	950	877	924	1,246	1,010	1,013
1922 (c)	945	929	939	1,052	999	975
1923	1,009	950	988	1,045	999	1,003
1924	969	988	975	1,003	1,004	987
1925	998	1,008	1,002	991	992	997
1926	1,023	1,026	1,024	986	998	1,011
1927	1,000	1,030	1,011	975	1,008	1,002
1928	985	1,066	1,014	997	1,010	1,009
1929	1,044	1,073	1,054	996	1,007	1,033
1930	941	1,047	978	951	999	975
1931	826	901	852	853	973	873
1932	796	817	803	804	958	830
1933	751	804	768	787	950	804
1934	783	810	792	785	944	817
1935	806	839	818	783	946	832
1936	825	879	844	792	947	850
1937	851	912	872	811	960	873
1938	886	942	906	829	961	897
1939	927	965	939	841	962	920
1940	939	973	950	956	998	957
1941	947	976	956	1,118	1,060	1,008
1942	1,031	976	1,007	1,308	1,112	1,091
1943	1,037	975	1,011	1,440	1,160	1,131
1944	1,026	976	1,004	1,435	1,165	1,126
1945	1,034	975	1,009	1,425	1,161	1,126
1946	1,036	976	1,010	1,505	1,167	1,145
1947	1,100	977	1,050	1,566	1,199	1,188
1948	1,256	979	1,145	1,744	1,257	1,295
1949	1,394	982	1,230	1,997	1,338	1,415
1950	1,566	987	1,336	2,286	1,435	1,560
1951	2,041	1,009	1,634	2,749	1,679	1,883

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 10.

(c) November.

**All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index and its "Group" Index-Numbers (a)  
for the Six Capital Cities combined, 1914 to 1951—continued.**

*(Base of Each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

Period.	Food and Groceries.	Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses). (b)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses) ("B" Series).	Clothing.	Miscell- aneous.	All Items ("C" Series) Index.
Quarter— 1939—September ..	920	967	936	836	961	916
1945—March ..	1,028	975	1,005	1,421	1,161	1,123
June ..	1,037	975	1,011	1,416	1,161	1,125
September ..	1,040	975	1,013	1,415	1,161	1,126
December ..	1,030	975	1,007	1,448	1,161	1,129
1946—March ..	1,036	976	1,010	1,456	1,164	1,134
June ..	1,042	976	1,014	1,494	1,167	1,145
September ..	1,029	976	1,006	1,521	1,167	1,146
December ..	1,037	976	1,011	1,550	1,170	1,156
1947—March ..	1,071	976	1,032	1,525	1,181	1,165
June ..	1,088	976	1,042	1,534	1,184	1,174
September ..	1,104	977	1,052	1,566	1,213	1,192
December ..	1,138	977	1,073	1,639	1,217	1,221
1948—March ..	1,190	978	1,105	1,661	1,231	1,248
June ..	1,229	979	1,129	1,720	1,248	1,278
September ..	1,274	979	1,156	1,778	1,271	1,311
December ..	1,330	980	1,190	1,818	1,277	1,341
1949—March ..	1,361	981	1,209	1,849	1,304	1,364
June ..	1,388	981	1,226	1,903	1,325	1,403
September ..	1,396	982	1,232	2,043	1,345	1,428
December ..	1,429	983	1,252	2,132	1,378	1,466
1950—March ..	1,473	984	1,279	2,156	1,402	1,491
June ..	1,520	986	1,308	2,261	1,413	1,534
September ..	1,582	987	1,346	2,316	1,432	1,572
December ..	1,689	989	1,412	2,410	1,492	1,643
1951—March ..	1,790	1,004	1,480	2,487	1,564	1,713
June ..	1,925	1,007	1,563	2,746	1,641	1,833
September ..	2,136	1,010	1,692	2,833	1,715	1,943
December ..	2,311	1,013	1,800	2,930	1,794	2,042

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 10.

## § 5. Increases in Retail Prices since Outbreak of War in 1939.

1. **Australia.**—The following statement shows for the six State capitals and Canberra separately and for the six State capitals as a whole, the percentage increases which have taken place in retail prices of items included in the "C" Series Index from September Quarter, 1939, to December Quarter, 1951, inclusive. The proportionate increase in the total index for each capital city is shown in the line marked "Total." In the column headed "C" Series Index the total percentage rise is dissected to show what part of it was due to the rise in prices in each of the four main groups of items. Thus, of the 125.1 per cent. increase for Sydney, 56.8 was due to food and groceries, 0.4 to house rent, 50.1 to clothing and 17.8 to miscellaneous items. The column headed "Group Index" shows the percentage increase in prices of items in each group considered as a group. Thus, for Sydney, prices in the food and groceries group increased by 158.2 per cent., house rents by 1.6 per cent., prices of clothing by 252.4 per cent. and prices of miscellaneous

items by 95.5 per cent. These when weighted and combined in the proportion of the "C" Series Index showed a rise of 125.1 per cent. For the Six Capital Cities as a whole the increase over the period was 122.9 per cent.

### All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

Percentage Increases September Quarter, 1939, to December Quarter, 1951.

Group.	Sydney.		Melbourne.		Brisbane.		Adelaide.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
Food and Groceries	(a)56.8	158.2	(a)55.1	150.4	(a)53.6	150.9	(a)51.4	144.9
Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses)	(a) 0.4	1.6	(a) 0.6	2.4	(a) 2.4	10.8	(a) 1.8	7.9
Clothing ..	(a)50.1	252.4	(a)49.4	250.7	(a)51.5	243.4	(a)51.2	244.0
Miscellaneous ..	(a)17.8	95.5	(a)16.4	83.7	(a)15.8	77.4	(a)16.0	76.7
Total ..	125.1	125.1	121.5	121.5	123.3	123.3	120.4	120.4

Group.	Perth.		Hobart.		Six State Capitals.(b)		Canberra.	
	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.	"C" Series Index.	Group Index.
Food and Groceries	(a)47.4	126.0	(a)53.1	145.9	(a)54.7	151.2	(a)54.4	137.5
Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses)	(a) 4.9	21.8	(a) 3.3	14.0	(a) 1.2	4.8	(a) 0.5	2.0
Clothing ..	(a)52.0	256.1	(a)50.7	245.3	(a)50.2	250.5	(a)50.7	258.2
Miscellaneous ..	(a)15.7	80.5	(a)16.5	85.5	(a)16.8	86.7	(a)15.5	91.9
Total ..	120.0	120.0	123.6	123.6	122.9	122.9	121.1	121.1

(a) Dissection of percentage rise in total index to show amount due to rise in each group

(b) Weighted average.

The foregoing comparisons refer to two points of time (i.e., the months immediately preceding the war and the closing months of 1951), at each of which special temporary factors may have influenced relative price levels. For instance, prices of certain foods (e.g., meat) fluctuate with seasonal conditions. The percentage increases shown do not, therefore, necessarily indicate the degree of increase due solely to causes peculiar to the war and post-war period.

**2. International Comparisons.**—The following table shows the increase during this period in Australia and certain other countries. The increases during the first world war have also been included.

## Retail Price Index-Numbers.

(FOOD, RENT, CLOTHING, MISCELLANEOUS HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE.)

Date.	Australia.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	New Zealand.	Union of South Africa.	United States of America.
(A): 1914-1919.						
	(a)				(b)	
1914 July .. ..	100	100	100	100	100(c)	100
1915 Year .. ..	114	125	97	108	103	102
1916 " .. ..	116	148	102	115	106	109
1917 " .. ..	123	180	130	125	114	128
1918 " .. ..	132	203	146	135	118	156
1919 " .. ..	149	208	155	145	126	175

(a) November.

(b) Food, Fuel, Light and Rent.

(c) Average for year 1914.

## (B): 1939-1951.

1939—					(a)	
September Quarter	100	100	100	100	100	100
1940—Year(b)	105	119	105	104	104	100
1941— " (b)	110	104	111	108	109	105
1942— " (b)	119	129	116	111	118	116
1943— " (b)	124	128	117	114	126	123
				(c)		
1944— " (b)	123	129	118	116	130	125
1945— " (b)	123	131	119	118	133	127
1946— " (b)	125	131	123	118	135	138
1947— " (b)	130	102(d)	134	122	141	158
1948— " (b)	141	108	154	132	149	170
1949— " (b)	154	111	160	134(e)	154	168
1950— " ..	170	114	165	142	160	171
1951— " ..	206	124	183	157	172	185
1950—March Quarter	163	113	161	136	157	166
June " "	167	114	163	140	160	168
Sept. " "	172	114	167	145	160	172
Dec. " "	179	116	169	147	164	176
1951—March Quarter	187	118	174	149	168	182
June " "	200	123	181	155	171	184
Sept. " "	212	127	187	161	173	185
Dec. " "	223	129	189	164	176	187

(a) Food Rent and Miscellaneous Expenditure.

(b) Quarterly indexes appear in preceding issues.

(c) War-time Index linked to former series.

(d) July-December new Series. Base: 17th June,

1947 = 100. (e) Consumers' (Retail) Price Index linked to former series.

At various stages during the first world war most of these countries introduced some measures of price control. But in the second world war they introduced price control measures at an early stage and these became more stringent as the war progressed, culminating in a policy of price stabilization.

Immediately after the outbreak of war in September, 1939, the Commonwealth Government took steps to control prices, and, by proclamation issued from day to day, pegged prices of various commodities at those ruling on 31st August, 1939. The National Security (Prices) Regulations proclaimed on 28th September, 1939, under the authority of the National Security Act, established the basic principles of war-time price control, provided for the appointment of a Commonwealth Prices Commissioner and conferred upon him extensive powers to control the price of goods declared for that purpose by the Minister for Trade and Customs. In *Official Year Book of the Commonwealth*, No. 37, pages 458-463, a brief summary of the development of this control is published, while in No. 38, page 414, reference is made to the transfer in September, 1948, of price control to the Governments of the States.



## § 6. Construction of All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index.

1. **The Regimen.**—The regimen from which the "C" Series Index is compiled consists of a list of commodities and services which commonly enter into the consumption of the average household and in respect of which comparative prices can be ascertained with due precision from time to time and place to place. (See § 2 (3) and (4) page 3 above.) The regimen is divided into the following Groups and Sections:—

Group.	Section.
I. Food and Groceries	.. { A.—Groceries. B.—Dairy Produce. C.—Meat.
II. Housing	.. D.—House Rent.
III. Clothing	.. { E.—Clothing—Man. F.—Clothing—Woman. G.—Clothing—Boy (10½ years). H.—Clothing—Girl (7 years). J.—Clothing—Boy (3½ years).
IV. Miscellaneous	.. { K.—Household Drapery. L.—Household Utensils. M.—Fuel and Light. N.—Other Miscellaneous.

The "C" Series Index includes the whole of the foregoing Groups, but for many purposes indexes are required for individual Groups or Sections. For this reason the following indexes are regularly compiled at the intervals shown, and published in this Report and other publications issued by the Bureau:—

Group. (a)	Content.	Frequency.
I.	Food and Groceries.. .. .	Monthly
II.	Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses) (b) .. .	Quarterly
I. and II.	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses) ("B" Series) .. .	Quarterly
III.	Clothing .. .. .	Quarterly
IV.	Miscellaneous Household Requirements .. .	Quarterly
I., II., III. and IV.	Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous ("C" Series)	Quarterly

For convenience of reference two of the indexes mentioned above have been given the "series" designation shown against them. These indexes are dealt with in turn in the following pages.

(a) "Group" or "Sectional" index-numbers in the various tables throughout this Report cannot be compared with each other in order to show the *relative cost* of Food and Groceries, Housing, Clothing or Miscellaneous requirements, since each "Group" or "Section" (or combination thereof) has its own Base = 1,000, viz., the weighted average cost for the Six Capital Cities as a whole during the five-yearly period 1923-27 for that "Group" or "Section".

(b) *Rent*—The rent index-numbers shown in the tables in this Report measure the proportionate rise and fall in the average weekly rentals paid for houses of four and five rooms taking corresponding houses throughout. They are "price" indexes in the strict sense, i.e., they are designed to measure only the "price" element in rent fluctuations. Similarly, "average rents" where shown are indexes of "price" changes in rentals expressed in terms of pence. They are not the average of rents actually paid by all tenants of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It would be inappropriate to include the average of rents actually paid in an index designed to measure price changes only. The average of rents actually paid is ascertained periodically by Census methods—(see also page 2 above). Rentals of new tenanted houses completed since the end of the war are not taken into account.

The articles and services included in the various regimens now used for the purposes of the indexes referred to are shown in the following table:—

**Retail Price Indexes—Regimen.**  
**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

No.	Item.	Unit.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).	Cost of Items in Regimen as percentage of aggregate cost— Melbourne, Dec. Quarter, 1950. (a)
SECTION A.—GROCERIES.				
1	Bread, white flour (cash delivered) ..	2-lb. loaf ..	100	3.41
2	Flour, ordinary .. .. .	2 lb. ..	25	0.58
3	Flour, self-raising .. .. .	2-lb. pkt. ..	12	0.48
4	Tea .. .. .	1-lb. pkt. ..	8	1.28
5	Sugar, white granulated, 1A ..	1 lb. ..	100	2.01
6	.. .. .	.. .. .	..	..
7	Sago, seed tapioca .. .. .	1 lb. ..	1	0.03
8	Jam, plum .. .. .	1½-lb. tin ..	8	0.54
9	Golden Syrup .. .. .	2-lb. tin ..	1	0.04
10	Oats, flaked, loose .. .. .	1 lb. ..	8	0.21
11	Raisins, seeded .. .. .	1-lb. pkt. ..	5	0.40
12	Currants, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	2	0.12
13	Apricots, dried, loose, 2-Crown ..	1 lb. ..	1	0.10
14	Peaches, canned .. .. .	30-oz. tin ..	3	0.25
15	Pears, canned .. .. .	30-oz. tin ..	1	0.09
16	.. .. .	.. .. .	..	..
17	Potatoes, new and old .. .. .	7 lb. ..	18	2.09
18	Onions, brown .. .. .	1 lb. ..	14	0.28
19	Soap .. .. .	1 lb. ..	16	0.74
20	Kerosene, lighting, bulk .. ..	quart ..	4	0.12

SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.

21	Butter, factory "choicest" .. ..	1 lb. ..	30	3.03
22	Cheese, ordinary, mild .. .. .	1 lb. ..	4	0.28
23	Eggs, standard, new laid .. ..	1 doz. ..	6	0.80
24	Bacon, rashers, best middle ..	1 lb. ..	12	2.06
25	Milk, condensed, sweetened .. ..	1 tin ..	5	0.29
26	Milk, fresh—in sealed bottles or not bottled .. .. .	quart ..	72	3.15

SECTION C.—MEAT.

27	Beef (fresh)— Sirloin (Roast) (bone in) .. ..	1 lb. ..	18	1.68
28	Prime Rib (Roast) including bone ..	1 lb. ..	22	1.79
29	Steak—Rump .. .. .	1 lb. ..	11	1.44
30	Steak—Chuck (stewing) .. ..	1 lb. ..	20	1.38
31	Sausages .. .. .	1 lb. ..	7	0.40
32	Beef (corned)— Silverside .. .. .	1 lb. ..	14	1.25
33	Brisket, rolled .. .. .	1 lb. ..	15	1.00
34	Mutton (fresh)— Leg .. .. .	1 lb. ..	20	1.38
35	Forequarter .. .. .	1 lb. ..	15	0.68
36	Loin, without flap .. .. .	1 lb. ..	4	0.25
37	Chops—Loin .. .. .	1 lb. ..	30	2.00
38	Chops—Leg .. .. .	1 lb. ..	10	0.70
39	Pork (fresh)— Leg .. .. .	1 lb. ..	3	0.42
40	Loin, best end .. .. .	1 lb. ..	3	0.43
41	Chops .. .. .	1 lb. ..	3	0.44

GROUP II.—HOUSING.—SECTION D.—RENT.

42	House Accommodation(b) ..	week ..	52(c)	13.74
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(a) Percentages for the various sections of the remaining Groups—III. Clothing and IV. Miscellaneous—of the "C" Series Index are shown on page 16. (b) Four and five-roomed houses. (c) Per household.

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).	No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per capita).
SECTION E.—CLOTHING—MAN.			SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS)—contd.		
1	Suit, ready-made, Worsted (Australian)	0.67	46	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
2	Trousers, working, Cotton Tweed (Australian)	2.00	47	Cap, Skull, Cloth	1.50
3	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.25	48	Shirt, Sports	5.00
4	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	1.00	49	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00
5	Shirt, Fashion	1.67	50	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
6	Shirt, Working, Drill	4.00	51	Braces	1.00
7	Singlet, Wool (short sleeves)	1.00	52	Stockings, Golf, All Wool	4.00
8	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00	53	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50
9	Underpants, Wool (full length)	1.00	54	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
10	Underpants, Cotton "Shorts"	1.00	55	Shoes, Box Yearling	1.00
11	Sox, All Wool	a (4.65)	56		
12	Braces	1.33	57		
13	Handkerchief, Cotton	6.00			
14	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50			
15	Pullover, All Wool	1.00			
16	Shoes (for best wear), Box Calf	0.50			
17	Boots, working, Box Hide	1.50			
SECTION F.—CLOTHING—WOMAN.(b)			SECTION H.—CLOTHING—GIRL (7 YEARS)		
20	Costume, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.50	58	Tunic, Wool	1.00
21	Skirt, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.25	59	Dress, Cotton	3.00
22	Hat, Fur Felt (Australian)	0.75	60	Top Coat, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
23	Hat, Straw	1.50	61	Hat, Wool Felt (Australian)	1.00
24	Frock, ready-made, Cotton	1.50	62	Hat, Straw	2.00
25	Frock, ready-made, Rayon	1.50	63	Petticoat, Rayon	1.00
26	Brassiere	4.50	64	Singlet, Wool and Rayon	0.50
27	Undervest, Wool and Rayon	1.50	65	Singlet, Rayon	0.50
28	Undervest, Rayon	1.50	66	Bloomers, Cotton, fleecy-lined	2.00
29	Bloomers, Rayon	4.50	67	Bloomers, Rayon	2.00
30	Princess Slip, Rayon	1.00	68	Sox, Ankle, Rayon and Lisle	4.00
31	Stockings, Silk, Nylon	6.00	69	Pyjamas, Winceyette	0.33
32	Stockings, Lisle	3.00	70	Pyjamas, Rayon	0.33
33	Gloves, Fabric	2.25	71	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
34	Gloves, Nappa	0.75	72	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	0.67
35	Nightdress, Rayon	a (2.49)	73	Shoes (school), Box Yearling	1.50
36	Pyjamas, Winceyette	1.50			
37	Apron, Cotton	6.00			
38	Cardigan, All Wool	0.50			
39	Shoes (for best wear), Glace Kid	1.50			
40	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Box Calf	1.50			
SECTION G.—CLOTHING—BOY (10½ YEARS).			SECTION J.—CLOTHING—BOY (3½ YEARS).		
44	Suit, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	1.00	76	Shirt, Ranger	3.00
45	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00	77	Pants, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	3.00
			78	Overcoat, ready-made, Tweed (Australian)	0.33
			79	Hat, Cloth	1.33
			80	Singlet, Wool	1.00
			81	Singlet, Cotton (athletic)	1.00
			82	Sox, Ankle, Rayon and Lisle	4.00
			83	Pyjamas, Winceyette	2.00
			84	Pullover, All Wool	0.50
			85	Shoes (for best wear), Patent Leather	1.00
			86	Shoes (for ordinary wear), Tan Yearling	2.00

(a) Mass unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted. (b) The mass units were raised by 50 per cent. throughout this Section to restore its due proportionate "weight" in the Clothing Group of the Index as from September Quarter, 1936.

## Retail Price Indexes—Regimen—continued.

## GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).	No.	Item.	"Weight" or Mass Unit (per household).
SECTION K.—HOUSEHOLD DRAPERY.			SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS—continued.		
1	Blankets, D.R. (pair) ..	0.07	26	Knife, Table (stainless) ..	0.10
2	Blankets, S.B. (pair) ..	0.14	27	Spoon, Tea ..	0.08
3	Quilt, D.B. ..	0.25	28	Spoon, Dessert ..	0.08
4	.. ..	..	29	Fork, Table ..	0.10
5	.. ..	..	30	Globe, Electric Light (gas-filled) ..	2.00
6	Sheets, D.B. (pair) ..	0.50	31	Iron, Electric (full size) ..	0.10
7	Sheets, S.B. (pair) ..	1.00	SECTION M.—FUEL AND LIGHT.		
8	Pillow Slip, Cotton ..	5.00	32	Firewood (blocks) (cwt.) (b) ..	40
9	Towel ..	3.00	33	Gas, cooking (units) (b) ..	1,318
10	Table Cloth ..	0.20	34	Electric lighting (units) ..	130
	Tea Towel (yard) ..	4.00	35	Electric power (units) (b) ..	130
SECTION L.—HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS.			No.	Item.	Amount per week (per household).
11	Cup and Saucer ..	2.00	SECTION N.—OTHER MISCELLANEOUS.		
12	Plate, Dinner (Stone China) ..	2.00	36	Union Dues ..	d.
13	Jug, Quart (Earthenware) ..	1.00	37	Lodge Dues ..	(c)
14	Teapot ..	0.25	38	Medicine ..	(c)
15	Basin, Pudding (Enamel), 6½-inch ..	1.00	39	Newspapers ..	(c)
16	Tumbler (8-oz.) ..	1.00	40	Recreation ..	(c)
17	Kettle, Enamel (4-pint) a (0.37) ..	0.20	41	Smoking ..	(c)
18	.. ..	..	42	Fares ..	(c)
19	Saucepan, Enamel (3-pint) ..	0.40	43	School requisites ..	(c)
20	Bucket, Galvanized (11-inch) ..	0.20			
21	Dipper ..	0.20			
22	Broom, Millet ..	0.50			
23	Broom, Hair, complete (12-inch) ..	0.33			
24	Brush, Scrubbing (10-inch) ..	1.50			
25	Mop, Polishing, complete ..	0.20			

(a) Mass unit actually applicable, and includes "weight" transferred from similar article now deleted.

(b) Standard mass units. In certain provincial towns where gas and/or electricity are not used the mass units differ from the standard.

(c) A basic amount per week is varied quarterly (where necessary) in accordance with changes shown by an index of variation.

## 2. The Mass Units (or "Weights") and Method of Tabulation.—

(i) The "mass units" (or "weights") are multipliers representing the approximate average annual consumption *per head or per household* under normal conditions. The index-numbers are computed on a "total annual aggregative expenditure" basis, i.e., the total annual expenditure from time to time by a *standard population* in respect of the selected regimen of commodities and services commonly entering into household consumption, and of a constant *standard quality*. As a first step, therefore, it is necessary to multiply the price of each item by its "weight" per head or per household as the case may be. Thus, the "weight" of bread is 100 2-lb. loaves per head; of sugar 100 lb. per head; of towels 3 per household; and of housing 52 rent-weeks per household. The result of this initial calculation is designated the "P.MU" aggregate (i.e., Price x Mass Unit).

The sum of the above "P.MU" results for each Section or Group is then multiplied by its appropriate population or household "weight" to produce the respective annual aggregate expenditures. Thus, Sections A to C (Food and Groceries) would be multiplied by the total population; Section D (Housing) by the total number of households; Sections E to J (Clothing) by the proportion of the total population applicable to each; and Sections K to N (Miscellaneous) by the total number of households.

The combination of the aggregates from the last paragraph gives the "total annual aggregate expenditure" for the whole regimen, from which the "C" Series index-number is derived by applying to 1,000 the ratio which the aggregate for any period bears to the aggregate for the base period of the index. In the process of tabulation all prices are converted to pence for these final aggregates.

For tabulating purposes some of these "mass units" are varied when necessary to make up a deficiency or cancel out an excess in the aggregate resulting from a *change in the standard* of any item upon which prices are collected, to ensure that such changes shall not be wrongly recorded by the index as *variations* in prices. The "mass units" published above, however, still continue to show the correct *relative* consumption "weights" actually applicable to the commodities and services in the regimen for the *constant standards* used in the index. See also § 2 (3) and § 6 (3) of this chapter.

(ii) The five sections into which the clothing group is divided are somewhat arbitrary, but they follow those adopted by the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage (see p. 106). The sections for men and women are now regarded as being applicable to persons aged seventeen years and upwards. The section for a boy aged ten and a half years is taken as representative of both sexes from ten to sixteen years; the section for a girl aged seven as representative of both sexes from five to nine years; and the section for a boy aged three and a half years is taken as representative of children aged four years and under.

(iii) In estimating the annual average consumption per head of food and groceries for household purposes, small adjustments in the crude average consumption were made in two ways. Consumption by factories, when the product did not go into household use in Australia, was deducted. On the other hand, the "weights" given to some foods, such as dried apricots and canned peaches, cover also the consumption of other similar foods. The "weights" of individual food items were not adjusted to take account of war-time scarcities and rationing.

(iv) Some foods of some importance, such as fresh fish, and fresh fruit and vegetables other than potatoes and onions, are not included in the regimen because comparable prices for a standard grade cannot be obtained from time to time or place to place and because of marked seasonal

fluctuations in supplies and consumption. The inclusion of such items, therefore, would impair the accuracy of the index. In the original regimen certain omissions were made partly on account of the difficulty of securing comparable prices. Some cuts of meat, for example, are excluded because they are not uniformly standardized. Mutton is included and not lamb because the latter, in many places, is available only seasonally. However, the appropriate total weight for meat is distributed amongst the cuts included in the regimen. Proprietary lines of breakfast foods are excluded because they are not universally available.

(v) In the case of Food and Groceries (Group I.) the "weights" adopted are, approximately, the annual average consumption per head for household purposes of the various articles during the years 1927 to 1929. The "weights" allotted to items in Clothing (Group III.) and Household Drapery (Section K of Group IV.) are based largely on the results of the inquiries of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage, which reported in 1920 and 1921. After exhaustive inquiries the Commission published a "regimen" for an average working family of five persons, and set out the constituent items in its "Indicator List". This list, so far as it related to the articles in question, was followed substantially in the original compilation of the "C" Series Index and has been adjusted by subsequent investigations of the Bureau to accord with changes in popular usage. The mass units used for fuel and light are based, indirectly, on the findings of the Commission. Until September Quarter, 1936 fixed amounts were used for the miscellaneous items of Section N, but since the date mentioned, provision has been made to vary certain of these amounts periodically, in accordance with ascertained changes.

(vi) The "weights" allotted to the items were not adjusted to take account of war-time shortages or rationing, and the index therefore measured war-time price changes in relation to a normal (or pre-war) apportionment of household expenditure. (See § 2 (5) and § 9 (5) of this chapter.)

**3. Relative "Aggregate Expenditure" of Items and Groups.**—In the *base period* of the index (the years 1923 to 1927) the relative importance of each of the four main groups, expressed as a percentage of the weighted average "aggregate expenditure" in the Six Capital Cities (from which all relative index-numbers are derived) was as shown in the third column of the following table. Although the "weights" of each item in the regimen are kept virtually constant, the relative "aggregate expenditure" of the various items and groups varies from time to time as relative prices change.

The percentage distribution for Melbourne in the *base period* was practically identical with that of the Six Capital Cities as a whole, and has continued to be representative of the relative movement of prices in the capital cities up to the present time. For this and other reasons, therefore, the percentage distribution of the Melbourne "aggregate expenditures"

has been published in previous issues of this Report, and these figures for December quarter, 1950, are shown in the last column of the table for comparison with those of the *base period*.

Group.	Section.	Proportion of Aggregate Expenditure.	
		1923-27. (Base). Six Capital Cities.	Dec. Qtr., 1950. Melbourne.
		%	%
I. Food and Groceries	{ A Groceries ..	17.44	12.77
	{ B Dairy Produce ..	10.28	9.70
	{ C Meat ..	10.94	15.24
II. Housing ..	D House Rent— (4 and 5-roomed houses) ..	21.26	13.74
	{ E Man ..	8.69	12.48
	{ F Woman ..	9.12	14.45
III. Clothing ..	{ G Boy, 10½ years ..	2.89	2.33
	{ H Girl, 7 years ..	1.36	1.75
	{ J Boy, 3½ years ..	0.98	0.87
	{ K Household Drapery ..	1.09	2.17
IV. Miscellaneous ..	{ L Household Utensils ..	0.49	0.66
	{ M Fuel and Light ..	4.92	4.34
	{ N Other Miscellaneous ..	10.54	9.50
		100.00	100.00

**4. Base Periods of the Indexes.**—The base period originally adopted by the Bureau for its retail price indexes was the year 1911. When the collection of the prices of clothing and miscellaneous items was undertaken for the purposes of the "C" Series Index, the month of November, 1914, was adopted as the base period for this series. The desirability of computing retail price indexes to a new base was considered by a Conference of Statisticians in 1929, and it was resolved that from 1st January, 1930, the five years 1923-27 should be adopted as the base period. Commencing with Labour Report No. 21 for 1930, therefore, the retail price indexes have been published on this base. The aggregate to which all index-numbers are related is the weighted "aggregate expenditure" of the regimen in the six capital cities during the period taken as base expressed as an index-number of 1,000.

Conferences of statisticians in 1949 and 1950 left consideration of the adoption of a new base period to be made in conjunction with the next general review of the index. In the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* the index is recomputed with the three years ended June, 1939, as base.

Indexes on the earlier bases mentioned will be found in previous issues of the Labour Report, as follows:—

(i) 1911 Base.—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; and food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 1 to 15.\* Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; and food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses ("B" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 16 to 20.

(ii) 1914 Base.—Food and groceries; rent of all houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure (subsequently retrospectively revised to include rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses only)—

\* These index-numbers appear in the Appendix to each Labour Report Nos. 16 to 28 and also in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* up to No. 155, June, 1938.

Labour Reports Nos. 12 to 16. Food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing; miscellaneous; all items of household expenditure ("C" Series Index)—Labour Reports Nos. 17 to 20.

The conversion of these indexes from one base to another may be readily effected by multiplying the index-number to be converted by the appropriate factor shown in the following table:—

Group.	1911 to 1914 (a).	1914 (a) to 1911.	1911 to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1911.	1914 (a) to 1923-27.	1923-27 to 1914 (a).
Food and Groceries ..	0.87230	1.14639	0.55929	1.78800	0.64116	1.55970
Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses) ..	0.94279	1.06068	0.61161	1.63500	0.64872	1.54150
Food, Groceries and Rent ("B" Series)	0.89750	1.11420	0.57785	1.73060	0.64384	1.55320
Clothing .. ..	..	..	..	..	0.75412	1.32610
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	..	..	0.74891	1.35530
All Items ("C" Series)	..	..	..	..	0.68715	1.45530

(a) November.

The results obtained by the method above will, of course, be only approximate, but the error will not be greater than one point in the unit figure.

5. **Relative Population Weights for Towns.**—Weighted averages for any combination of towns or States may be calculated approximately by multiplying the index-numbers\* of the towns or States to be included by their population weights, and dividing the sum of the products by the sum of the multipliers. The population weights used in the computations of these weighted averages for 1934 and succeeding years are as follows:—

**Relative Population Weights Used for Different Towns.**

New South Wales.		Victoria.		Queensland.		South Australia.		Western Australia.		Tasmania.	
Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.	Town.	Weight.
Sydney ..	1235	Melbourne	992	Brisbane	300	Adelaide	313	Perth, etc.	208	Hobart	60
Newcastle	105	Ballarat ..	38	T'woomba	26	Kadina, etc.	11	Kalg'lie, etc.	17	Launceston	33
Broken Hill	27	Bendigo ..	29	Rockham'n	29	Pt. Pirie	12	Northam	5	Burnie ..	4
Goulburn	15	Geelong ..	39	†Townsville	26	Mt. Gamb'r	5	Bunbury	5	Devonport	5
Bathurst	10	W'nambool	9	†Bundaberg	11	Peterbor'gh	3	Geraldton	5	Queenst'wn	4
Total ..	1392	Total ..	1107	†Total ..	392	Total ..	344	Total ..	240	Total ..	106

† Townsville and Bundaberg were substituted for Charters Towers (7) and Warwick (7) in the "five towns" tabulation in March Quarter, 1937.

The weights used are based on the 1933 Census results, and represent to the nearest 1,000 the actual population at that date.

These weights produce results which differ only very slightly from those obtained from the weights previously in use. The latter were based upon the 1921 Census results, and were last published in Labour Report, No. 23.

\* The official index-numbers are calculated by operating on the "aggregates" of the towns concerned, a procedure which may produce slightly different results from the above.



## § 7. Tabular Statements of Retail Price Index-Numbers.

1. **General.**—The results of inquiries into price movements are available as follows :—

(i) *Monthly.*—The *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date.

(ii) *Quarterly.*—A statement is issued about three weeks after the end of each quarter giving the “C” Series index-numbers for that quarter and immediately preceding quarters in respect of each of the 30 cities and towns originally adopted and for certain other towns, e.g., Canberra, for which “C” Series index-numbers are now compiled. The *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics* contains annual, quarterly and monthly index-numbers to the latest available date. This publication also contains the average prices of the items of food and groceries, for each month of the last available quarter, in the 30 towns covered by the investigation. Particulars of movements in certain average rents of 4 and 5-roomed houses in these towns are also shown therein.

(iii) *Annual.*—The Labour Report contains index-numbers over a number of past years, and the monthly and quarterly results for at least the last available year. The average prices for the last year of the items of food and groceries, and house rents, are also published in this Report. The *Official Year Book* also contains information similar to, but in less detail than that published herein.

2. **All Items (“C” Series) Retail Price Index.**—On pages 6-7 above is published a table of weighted averages for the six capital cities combined, of “C” Series index-numbers, together with index-numbers for the four main groups of items in the “C” Series Index for each year 1914-1951.

In the pages immediately following are published :—

- (i) the “C” Series index-number for the last quarter of each of the years 1939 and 1945 to 1950 (page 19) and for the month of November of each of the years 1914 to 1920 (page 20), for each capital city and for the six capital cities combined, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four groups of items ;
- (ii) the “C” Series index-numbers for November, 1914, 1921 and 1922, the years 1923 to 1950, the September Quarter, 1939, and each quarter during the period March Quarter, 1944, to December Quarter, 1950, for each of the 30 towns, with the weighted averages of the 5 towns in each State, 30 towns and the six capital cities (pages 21-23) ;
- (iii) the “C” Series index-numbers for the years 1939 to 1950 and the twelve quarters ended 31st December, 1950, for four additional towns not included in the weighted averages in (ii) above, and showing also separate indexes for each of the four groups of items (page 24) ;
- (iv) “Group” index-numbers for each of the four groups of items in the “C” Series Index for places mentioned in (ii) above for November, 1914 and 1921, the years 1939 and 1943 to 1950 and the four quarters ended 31st December, 1950 (pages 25-27).

**All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(a) : Capital Cities.**  
*(Base of each Group: Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27=1,000.)*

Period.	Sydney.	Mel- bourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (b)
<b>GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>							
Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	940	942	859	888	926	941	927
" " 1945 ..	1,029	1,055	963	1,001	1,051	1,062	1,030
" " 1946 ..	1,047	1,044	996	996	1,052	1,084	1,037
" " 1947 ..	1,138	1,160	1,092	1,112	1,132	1,180	1,138
" " 1948 ..	1,326	1,355	1,280	1,305	1,324	1,416	1,330
" " 1949 ..	1,421	1,451	1,367	1,398	1,488	1,514	1,429
" " 1950 ..	1,713	1,724	1,551	1,606	1,707	1,665	1,689

**GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(c)**

Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	1,040	960	855	891	882	930	969
" " 1945 ..	1,043	973	863	892	886	934	975
" " 1946 ..	1,043	973	863	895	886	936	976
" " 1947 ..	1,045	974	864	899	887	936	977
" " 1948 ..	1,047	974	866	905	890	938	980
" " 1949 ..	1,049	977	873	914	897	941	983
" " 1950 ..	1,050	979	898	937	904	941	989

**GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).**

Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	977	947	855	887	907	935	941
" " 1945 ..	1,032	1,021	922	957	984	1,010	1,007
" " 1946 ..	1,043	1,014	942	955	985	1,024	1,011
" " 1947 ..	1,099	1,084	1,001	1,026	1,034	1,082	1,073
" " 1948 ..	1,214	1,203	1,116	1,146	1,152	1,226	1,190
" " 1949 ..	1,273	1,263	1,171	1,206	1,254	1,287	1,252
" " 1950 ..	1,451	1,429	1,293	1,341	1,390	1,379	1,412

**GROUP III.—CLOTHING.**

Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	854	862	865	869	840	867	858
" " 1945 ..	1,459	1,445	1,446	1,433	1,423	1,447	1,448
" " 1946 ..	1,555	1,551	1,552	1,529	1,548	1,558	1,550
" " 1947 ..	1,639	1,649	1,619	1,618	1,647	1,653	1,639
" " 1948 ..	1,831	1,801	1,817	1,809	1,835	1,807	1,818
" " 1949 ..	2,161	2,117	2,072	2,113	2,155	2,129	2,132
" " 1950 ..	2,447	2,389	2,355	2,390	2,408	2,401	2,410

**GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	983	960	1,027	957	945	967
" " 1945 ..	1,163	1,158	1,133	1,213	1,139	1,099	1,161
" " 1946 ..	1,175	1,165	1,141	1,222	1,147	1,110	1,170
" " 1947 ..	1,245	1,201	1,157	1,266	1,160	1,140	1,217
" " 1948 ..	1,279	1,273	1,249	1,350	1,242	1,191	1,277
" " 1949 ..	1,389	1,397	1,316	1,410	1,305	1,234	1,378
" " 1950 ..	1,527	1,482	1,418	1,555	1,374	1,383	1,492

**GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.**

Dec. Qtr. 1939 ..	943	932	874	906	899	919	926
" " 1945 ..	1,147	1,137	1,074	1,106	1,107	1,120	1,129
" " 1946 ..	1,177	1,157	1,110	1,128	1,136	1,155	1,156
" " 1947 ..	1,242	1,227	1,163	1,198	1,189	1,216	1,221
" " 1948 ..	1,359	1,345	1,291	1,327	1,316	1,344	1,341
" " 1949 ..	1,486	1,472	1,393	1,440	1,459	1,459	1,466
" " 1950 ..	1,680	1,646	1,546	1,608	1,607	1,601	1,643

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) Weighted average. (c) See footnote (b) on page 10.

**All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers(a) : Capital Cities.**  
*(Base of each Group : Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

Period.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals. (b)
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**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

Nov. 1914 ..	638	616	614	683	746	687	641
" 1915 ..	844	835	860	858	819	858	842
" 1916 ..	833	791	748	835	854	807	812
" 1917 ..	877	798	825	805	828	949	836
" 1918 ..	877	843	882	862	816	918	861
" 1919 ..	1,073	975	1,069	1,012	987	1,041	1,026
" 1920 ..	1,225	1,220	1,117	1,225	1,113	1,293	1,209

**GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (c)**

Nov. 1914 ..	758	608	463	611	586	525	649
" 1915 ..	780	611	472	574	581	571	659
" 1916 ..	791	625	467	573	592	574	665
" 1917 ..	797	657	492	606	602	586	685
" 1918 ..	832	699	526	656	619	614	722
" 1919 ..	866	744	604	707	650	746	768
" 1920 ..	980	807	634	783	718	904	851

**GROUPS I. AND II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).**

Nov. 1914 ..	680	613	560	658	689	630	644
" 1915 ..	825	756	722	758	734	756	777
" 1916 ..	818	732	648	742	761	724	760
" 1917 ..	848	748	707	734	748	820	782
" 1918 ..	861	792	756	789	746	810	812
" 1919 ..	1,000	893	904	904	867	936	934
" 1920 ..	1,138	1,074	945	1,068	973	1,155	1,082

**GROUP III.—CLOTHING.**

Nov. 1914 ..	755	780	657	756	698	825	754
" 1915 ..	805	797	690	821	760	833	792
" 1916 ..	903	870	779	919	849	940	881
" 1917 ..	1,009	976	899	1,049	980	1,041	992
" 1918 ..	1,102	1,103	1,025	1,066	1,135	1,200	1,097
" 1919 ..	1,237	1,213	1,192	1,303	1,277	1,344	1,238
" 1920 ..	1,323	1,422	1,274	1,384	1,359	1,430	1,365

**GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.**

Nov. 1914 ..	766	728	728	770	780	699	749
" 1915 ..	798	770	756	803	822	770	786
" 1916 ..	808	784	766	832	869	780	802
" 1917 ..	889	879	836	883	926	865	882
" 1918 ..	988	950	931	988	1,035	945	972
" 1919 ..	1,059	1,016	968	1,035	1,120	1,006	1,036
" 1920 ..	1,209	1,181	1,139	1,200	1,262	1,124	1,194

**GROUPS I. TO IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.**

Nov. 1914 ..	712	671	611	699	707	687	687
" 1915 ..	816	768	721	780	755	776	782
" 1916 ..	836	773	698	798	800	783	795
" 1917 ..	892	823	773	832	832	879	847
" 1918 ..	938	890	848	887	885	923	905
" 1919 ..	1,065	988	981	1,018	1,005	1,042	1,022
" 1920 ..	1,193	1,172	1,054	1,164	1,111	1,213	1,166

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) Weighted average. See pages 21-23 for corresponding figures for years 1921 to 1950.

(c) See footnote (b) on page 10.

## All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers: Thirty Towns.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warram- bool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 (a)	712	..	..	..	..	..	671	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,046	1,041	975	1,033	947	1,042	1,003	992	1,002	1,019	1,034	1,003
" 1922 ..	1,021	967	933	983	893	1,011	963	935	935	982	914	960
Year 1923 ..	1,023	992	958	1,024	924	1,018	1,004	924	937	966	956	996
" 1924 ..	1,002	967	930	1,039	917	997	976	896	901	933	960	968
" 1925 ..	1,016	986	972	1,029	935	1,012	984	914	913	950	942	977
" 1926 ..	1,033	1,010	988	1,050	978	1,030	998	931	933	984	946	992
" 1927 ..	1,029	1,015	1,000	1,062	952	1,027	990	922	940	985	945	985
" 1928 ..	1,042	1,014	997	1,074	964	1,038	992	929	936	973	941	987
" 1929 ..	1,073	1,028	1,018	1,108	979	1,067	1,017	957	969	980	960	1,011
" 1930 ..	1,026	991	973	1,039	959	1,022	956	909	926	917	939	951
" 1931 ..	922	888	882	922	867	918	846	808	833	822	860	843
" 1932 ..	867	840	834	877	820	863	813	776	808	794	838	811
" 1933 ..	832	819	806	843	801	830	789	760	789	772	812	787
" 1934 ..	842	834	819	852	807	841	801	781	811	782	826	801
" 1935 ..	852	856	819	860	814	852	824	803	820	824	850	824
" 1936 ..	866	853	818	864	833	865	844	826	821	848	851	843
" 1937 ..	889	849	893	867	842	886	868	839	840	855	856	866
" 1938 ..	913	877	910	893	860	911	896	850	854	884	892	893
" 1939 ..	936	901	955	916	883	933	924	874	875	911	918	920
" 1940 ..	974	945	981	949	923	972	964	906	920	941	954	960
" 1941 ..	1,028	997	1,049	1,005	974	1,026	1,008	950	963	984	998	1,004
" 1942 ..	1,107	1,069	1,132	1,087	1,050	1,104	1,100	1,037	1,054	1,065	1,078	1,095
" 1943 ..	1,151	1,109	1,172	1,125	1,091	1,147	1,139	1,084	1,096	1,110	1,126	1,135
" 1944 ..	1,144	1,094	1,179	1,118	1,088	1,140	1,135	1,083	1,101	1,112	1,129	1,131
" 1945 ..	1,142	1,100	1,192	1,114	1,091	1,139	1,135	1,086	1,099	1,113	1,139	1,131
" 1946 ..	1,165	1,119	1,216	1,134	1,116	1,162	1,149	1,094	1,107	1,124	1,153	1,145
" 1947 ..	1,212	1,167	1,257	1,177	1,162	1,208	1,188	1,132	1,141	1,170	1,186	1,184
" 1948 ..	1,318	1,279	1,376	1,291	1,277	1,315	1,294	1,243	1,244	1,278	1,283	1,290
" 1949 ..	1,439	1,402	1,528	1,426	1,403	1,437	1,415	1,365	1,365	1,397	1,398	1,411
" 1950 ..	1,593	1,543	1,692	1,578	1,552	1,591	1,565	1,509	1,520	1,549	1,558	1,561
1939 Sept. Qtr.	933	897	943	914	881	930	918	875	868	909	918	915
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,143	1,097	1,175	1,118	1,085	1,139	1,129	1,074	1,095	1,103	1,115	1,125
" June "	1,143	1,089	1,174	1,119	1,086	1,139	1,133	1,082	1,101	1,112	1,122	1,129
" Sept. "	1,146	1,093	1,184	1,117	1,090	1,142	1,140	1,087	1,104	1,118	1,138	1,136
" Dec. "	1,142	1,095	1,184	1,116	1,089	1,138	1,138	1,087	1,102	1,116	1,140	1,134
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,138	1,093	1,184	1,110	1,086	1,135	1,132	1,086	1,099	1,114	1,135	1,129
" June "	1,141	1,099	1,193	1,111	1,089	1,138	1,134	1,086	1,108	1,112	1,135	1,131
" Sept. "	1,142	1,103	1,194	1,112	1,090	1,139	1,135	1,085	1,099	1,114	1,139	1,132
" Dec. "	1,147	1,106	1,198	1,121	1,099	1,145	1,137	1,085	1,099	1,112	1,145	1,133
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,151	1,108	1,203	1,123	1,105	1,148	1,141	1,089	1,101	1,117	1,146	1,137
" June "	1,165	1,117	1,218	1,133	1,116	1,161	1,150	1,094	1,105	1,126	1,154	1,146
" Sept. "	1,167	1,119	1,218	1,134	1,120	1,163	1,149	1,095	1,107	1,121	1,152	1,145
" Dec. "	1,177	1,131	1,223	1,145	1,122	1,174	1,157	1,096	1,114	1,132	1,159	1,153
1947 Mar. Qtr.	1,192	1,149	1,234	1,155	1,137	1,189	1,159	1,104	1,118	1,144	1,164	1,156
" June "	1,194	1,150	1,237	1,160	1,147	1,191	1,175	1,123	1,130	1,161	1,175	1,171
" Sept. "	1,218	1,169	1,258	1,183	1,169	1,214	1,189	1,132	1,139	1,170	1,185	1,185
" Dec. "	1,242	1,199	1,298	1,211	1,196	1,239	1,227	1,170	1,177	1,203	1,219	1,223
1948 Mar. Qtr.	1,270	1,233	1,324	1,243	1,229	1,267	1,249	1,199	1,206	1,233	1,240	1,246
" June "	1,305	1,263	1,364	1,271	1,263	1,302	1,272	1,222	1,222	1,256	1,266	1,268
" Sept. "	1,337	1,296	1,396	1,309	1,298	1,334	1,309	1,256	1,256	1,296	1,297	1,305
" Dec. "	1,359	1,324	1,419	1,341	1,318	1,357	1,345	1,294	1,290	1,325	1,329	1,341
1949 Mar. Qtr.	1,391	1,352	1,461	1,380	1,358	1,389	1,363	1,315	1,314	1,344	1,349	1,359
" June "	1,425	1,393	1,504	1,421	1,393	1,424	1,402	1,355	1,355	1,385	1,387	1,399
" Sept. "	1,452	1,413	1,554	1,434	1,411	1,451	1,422	1,369	1,366	1,401	1,404	1,417
" Dec. "	1,486	1,449	1,593	1,467	1,448	1,485	1,472	1,420	1,424	1,457	1,451	1,468
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,515	1,473	1,614	1,495	1,475	1,513	1,501	1,456	1,462	1,493	1,483	1,498
" June "	1,564	1,519	1,646	1,555	1,522	1,562	1,542	1,480	1,495	1,523	1,531	1,538
" Sept. "	1,613	1,552	1,717	1,597	1,570	1,610	1,569	1,513	1,529	1,559	1,571	1,566
" Dec. "	1,680	1,628	1,790	1,664	1,641	1,678	1,646	1,588	1,592	1,619	1,648	1,642

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20.

## All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—continued.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta, and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 (a)	611	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	923	949	972	1,025b	994c	941	989	998	1,025	1,029	948	992
" 1922 ..	877	841	883	865b	891c	873	954	903	922	906	868	847
Year 1923 ..	923	899	884	910b	910c	917	1,008	952	936	930	934	1,001
" 1924 ..	915	890	872	903b	896c	909	1,015	929	943	914	909	1,007
" 1925 ..	923	919	907	896b	903c	920	1,028	930	969	937	1,013	1,021
" 1926 ..	950	945	947	925b	951c	949	1,026	935	988	956	1,016	1,020
" 1927 ..	922	914	929	918b	946c	923	1,018	932	970	945	1,023	1,012
" 1928 ..	917	906	903	925b	914c	915	1,027	927	960	948	1,017	1,019
" 1929 ..	923	916	904	939b	931c	922	1,037	943	980	963	1,043	1,030
" 1930 ..	859	885	868	883b	882c	863	952	885	927	918	980	948
" 1931 ..	798	816	806	827b	815c	801	837	801	834	831	884	836
" 1932 ..	764	788	779	794b	777c	768	802	772	791	816	848	801
" 1933 ..	751	778	752	762b	757c	753	789	747	762	800	832	787
" 1934 ..	762	785	759	759b	761c	764	806	758	778	800	832	804
" 1935 ..	780	785	776	789b	769c	780	820	763	789	809	833	817
" 1936 ..	804	802	802	810b	779c	803	839	765	813	818	843	835
" 1937 ..	837	840	840	883	809	840	859	769	844	830	851	855
" 1938 ..	852	843	853	902	831	854	888	786	868	849	868	883
" 1939 ..	870	858	867	918	847	871	906	810	896	872	897	902
" 1940 ..	908	898	905	950	879	909	936	833	919	894	924	931
" 1941 ..	963	951	959	1,004	938	964	988	882	976	946	974	983
" 1942 ..	1,033	1,033	1,032	1,075	1,015	1,035	1,075	962	1,057	1,024	1,053	1,060
" 1943 ..	1,072	1,080	1,073	1,114	1,057	1,075	1,102	998	1,087	1,061	1,087	1,097
" 1944 ..	1,071	1,085	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,075	1,098	995	1,081	1,064	1,087	1,093
" 1945 ..	1,072	1,087	1,079	1,114	1,054	1,075	1,102	999	1,085	1,070	1,093	1,098
" 1946 ..	1,093	1,107	1,096	1,136	1,074	1,097	1,120	1,020	1,106	1,093	1,108	1,116
" 1947 ..	1,137	1,152	1,140	1,181	1,115	1,140	1,165	1,067	1,152	1,134	1,152	1,160
" 1948 ..	1,241	1,246	1,241	1,282	1,221	1,244	1,277	1,166	1,260	1,235	1,253	1,272
" 1949 ..	1,348	1,360	1,357	1,404	1,335	1,352	1,393	1,295	1,360	1,340	1,368	1,388
" 1950 ..	1,472	1,486	1,491	1,525	1,464	1,478	1,521	1,423	1,500	1,499	1,496	1,516
1939 Sept. Qtr.	866	853	861	912	843	867	903	812	897	866	896	899
1944 Mar. Qtr.	1,072	1,087	1,075	1,116	1,056	1,075	1,098	996	1,081	1,057	1,083	1,093
" June "	1,072	1,085	1,076	1,119	1,060	1,076	1,096	992	1,077	1,057	1,082	1,091
" Sept. "	1,071	1,084	1,074	1,117	1,057	1,075	1,101	995	1,084	1,071	1,095	1,096
" Dec. "	1,069	1,084	1,071	1,116	1,056	1,073	1,098	996	1,080	1,070	1,089	1,093
1945 Mar. Qtr.	1,071	1,086	1,077	1,117	1,056	1,075	1,098	993	1,080	1,067	1,089	1,094
" June "	1,072	1,088	1,083	1,115	1,053	1,076	1,100	996	1,084	1,068	1,090	1,096
" Sept. "	1,069	1,085	1,073	1,109	1,049	1,073	1,103	1,003	1,086	1,073	1,096	1,099
" Dec. "	1,074	1,088	1,080	1,114	1,056	1,077	1,106	1,005	1,090	1,073	1,097	1,102
1946 Mar. Qtr.	1,081	1,095	1,086	1,123	1,061	1,084	1,110	1,009	1,092	1,079	1,098	1,106
" June "	1,090	1,101	1,092	1,129	1,070	1,093	1,121	1,017	1,110	1,095	1,109	1,116
" Sept. "	1,092	1,106	1,093	1,135	1,073	1,095	1,121	1,023	1,107	1,095	1,108	1,117
" Dec. "	1,110	1,125	1,111	1,156	1,090	1,114	1,128	1,031	1,115	1,103	1,118	1,124
1947 Mar. Qtr.	1,123	1,139	1,126	1,172	1,107	1,127	1,137	1,041	1,125	1,113	1,124	1,133
" June "	1,125	1,141	1,129	1,169	1,108	1,129	1,154	1,061	1,142	1,121	1,143	1,150
" Sept. "	1,136	1,153	1,142	1,181	1,111	1,140	1,169	1,072	1,156	1,137	1,159	1,161
" Dec. "	1,163	1,175	1,163	1,201	1,132	1,165	1,198	1,095	1,185	1,163	1,181	1,193
1948 Mar. Qtr.	1,193	1,199	1,191	1,230	1,165	1,195	1,226	1,124	1,215	1,197	1,213	1,222
" June "	1,227	1,232	1,225	1,263	1,203	1,229	1,262	1,150	1,244	1,223	1,238	1,257
" Sept. "	1,251	1,260	1,259	1,300	1,241	1,256	1,293	1,181	1,273	1,250	1,266	1,288
" Dec. "	1,291	1,292	1,290	1,335	1,276	1,294	1,327	1,207	1,308	1,271	1,295	1,321
1949 Mar. Qtr.	1,295	1,304	1,307	1,356	1,287	1,300	1,347	1,241	1,322	1,291	1,317	1,342
" June "	1,338	1,349	1,349	1,397	1,327	1,343	1,377	1,290	1,350	1,331	1,352	1,372
" Sept. "	1,364	1,377	1,373	1,418	1,352	1,368	1,408	1,300	1,381	1,354	1,382	1,402
" Dec. "	1,393	1,408	1,399	1,444	1,374	1,397	1,440	1,340	1,416	1,382	1,419	1,435
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,414	1,429	1,428	1,469	1,401	1,419	1,456	1,359	1,433	1,405	1,435	1,451
" June "	1,446	1,455	1,461	1,506	1,437	1,451	1,492	1,397	1,468	1,452	1,475	1,487
" Sept. "	1,482	1,496	1,497	1,528	1,471	1,487	1,527	1,431	1,501	1,516	1,501	1,523
" Dec. "	1,546	1,562	1,577	1,595	1,548	1,553	1,608	1,503	1,597	1,622	1,571	1,604

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20.

(b) Charters Towers.

(c) Warwick.

## All Items ("C" Series) Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—continued.

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.							TASMANIA.							Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted A'v'g, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport	Queenstown.	Weighted A'v'g, 5 Towns.				
Nov. 1914(a)	707	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	687	..		
" 1921	1,008	1,048	1,030	1,045	1,056	1,020	1,070	1,067	1,003	1,004	1,031	1,057	1,013	1,013		
" 1922	931	964	958	968	970	941	997	976	919	956	963	975	975	967		
Year 1923	977	1,006	965	962	1,016	981	1,042	935	971	956	963	1,016	1,003	996		
" 1924	982	1,009	969	983	1,012	986	1,051	985	908	950	954	1,020	987	980		
" 1925	994	1,009	1,008	985	1,027	996	1,028	968	952	941	978	1,002	997	991		
" 1926	992	1,002	998	978	1,012	994	1,035	973	957	948	956	1,007	1,011	1,006		
" 1927	984	984	988	963	1,010	985	998	953	936	925	932	977	1,002	997		
" 1928	1,012	995	1,003	963	1,029	1,009	980	957	941	909	934	966	1,009	1,003		
" 1929	1,026	1,032	1,022	978	1,051	1,026	1,000	967	966	948	972	986	1,033	1,026		
" 1930	977	986	969	966	1,029	979	956	949	918	920	949	951	975	971		
" 1931	885	937	878	877	951	891	875	865	837	831	881	869	873	870		
" 1932	840	940	844	842	904	852	844	832	811	800	875	838	830	829		
" 1933	811	937	814	824	851	825	825	817	775	773	867	820	804	803		
" 1934	830	975	825	843	866	842	837	828	780	787	876	831	817	816		
" 1935	834	1,011	829	865	886	848	849	834	792	801	873	841	852	831		
" 1936	856	1,027	860	880	933	870	860	840	814	809	850	850	850	848		
" 1937	869	1,030	890	897	970	884	875	856	854	833	857	866	873	871		
" 1938	882	1,048	900	914	957	897	887	872	865	848	875	879	897	894		
" 1939	901	1,066	915	936	965	915	908	888	879	861	903	898	920	917		
" 1940	932	1,099	947	962	990	946	945	926	917	896	936	936	957	954		
" 1941	993	1,165	1,017	1,018	1,055	1,008	1,001	974	971	951	987	989	1,008	1,006		
" 1942	1,061	1,175	1,079	1,065	1,114	1,070	1,078	1,040	1,035	1,012	1,045	1,060	1,091	1,087		
" 1943	1,104	1,192	1,111	1,102	1,165	1,112	1,117	1,078	1,088	1,058	1,096	1,101	1,131	1,127		
" 1944	1,105	1,199	1,113	1,110	1,176	1,113	1,105	1,067	1,065	1,040	1,102	1,089	1,126	1,122		
" 1945	1,107	1,202	1,113	1,115	1,170	1,116	1,107	1,072	1,063	1,045	1,110	1,092	1,126	1,123		
" 1946	1,127	1,223	1,133	1,136	1,187	1,136	1,138	1,099	1,093	1,079	1,139	1,121	1,145	1,142		
" 1947	1,161	1,265	1,171	1,173	1,221	1,170	1,178	1,147	1,132	1,119	1,179	1,164	1,188	1,185		
" 1948	1,264	1,368	1,272	1,277	1,327	1,273	1,292	1,254	1,232	1,220	1,280	1,274	1,295	1,292		
" 1949	1,410	1,502	1,420	1,424	1,475	1,418	1,419	1,389	1,367	1,351	1,400	1,404	1,415	1,413		
" 1950	1,538	1,636	1,550	1,559	1,611	1,547	1,526	1,493	1,484	1,481	1,494	1,511	1,560	1,556		
1939— Sept. Qtr.	904	1,069	919	939	966	918	905	886	878	860	902	896	916	914		
1944— Mar. Qtr.	1,102	1,193	1,109	1,104	1,174	1,110	1,105	1,067	1,076	1,040	1,095	1,089	1,124	1,120		
June "	1,103	1,195	1,113	1,109	1,177	1,112	1,100	1,061	1,056	1,031	1,096	1,083	1,125	1,121		
Sept. "	1,110	1,204	1,118	1,118	1,184	1,118	1,110	1,072	1,069	1,045	1,110	1,094	1,129	1,125		
Dec. "	1,104	1,203	1,110	1,110	1,168	1,112	1,106	1,067	1,059	1,042	1,108	1,089	1,126	1,122		
1945— Mar. Qtr.	1,104	1,197	1,111	1,111	1,167	1,113	1,101	1,064	1,053	1,037	1,104	1,085	1,123	1,120		
June "	1,108	1,204	1,115	1,117	1,171	1,117	1,099	1,067	1,055	1,038	1,106	1,085	1,125	1,122		
Sept. "	1,108	1,204	1,114	1,116	1,172	1,117	1,107	1,073	1,065	1,045	1,112	1,092	1,126	1,123		
Dec. "	1,107	1,202	1,110	1,115	1,168	1,115	1,120	1,085	1,080	1,060	1,118	1,105	1,129	1,126		
1946— Mar. Qtr.	1,116	1,215	1,121	1,126	1,177	1,125	1,120	1,085	1,078	1,063	1,119	1,105	1,134	1,131		
June "	1,127	1,224	1,135	1,136	1,189	1,135	1,132	1,096	1,091	1,077	1,134	1,117	1,145	1,142		
Sept. "	1,128	1,223	1,134	1,137	1,188	1,137	1,143	1,102	1,098	1,086	1,151	1,126	1,146	1,143		
Dec. "	1,136	1,231	1,141	1,145	1,195	1,145	1,155	1,114	1,103	1,091	1,153	1,137	1,156	1,153		
1947— Mar. Qtr.	1,136	1,239	1,145	1,149	1,196	1,145	1,152	1,119	1,106	1,094	1,153	1,137	1,165	1,162		
June "	1,151	1,253	1,160	1,163	1,209	1,160	1,158	1,133	1,115	1,105	1,163	1,147	1,174	1,171		
Sept. "	1,167	1,270	1,177	1,180	1,229	1,176	1,187	1,153	1,139	1,126	1,188	1,172	1,192	1,189		
Dec. "	1,189	1,297	1,200	1,201	1,251	1,199	1,216	1,183	1,167	1,149	1,213	1,201	1,221	1,218		
1948— Mar. Qtr.	1,221	1,331	1,227	1,232	1,280	1,230	1,240	1,208	1,188	1,172	1,237	1,225	1,248	1,245		
June "	1,238	1,342	1,248	1,249	1,300	1,247	1,276	1,241	1,218	1,213	1,267	1,260	1,278	1,275		
Sept. "	1,282	1,383	1,289	1,298	1,344	1,291	1,307	1,267	1,243	1,237	1,292	1,288	1,311	1,308		
Dec. "	1,316	1,415	1,322	1,327	1,383	1,325	1,344	1,301	1,279	1,259	1,325	1,324	1,341	1,338		
1949— Mar. Qtr.	1,338	1,441	1,347	1,355	1,411	1,348	1,379	1,346	1,323	1,306	1,361	1,363	1,364	1,362		
June "	1,406	1,498	1,419	1,421	1,472	1,414	1,412	1,385	1,355	1,337	1,395	1,397	1,403	1,401		
Sept. "	1,435	1,525	1,446	1,447	1,494	1,443	1,425	1,398	1,382	1,364	1,407	1,411	1,428	1,425		
Dec. "	1,459	1,544	1,467	1,472	1,521	1,467	1,459	1,425	1,406	1,398	1,436	1,443	1,466	1,463		
1950— Mar. Qtr.	1,479	1,571	1,494	1,499	1,546	1,487	1,455	1,424	1,417	1,413	1,431	1,441	1,491	1,488		
June "	1,517	1,616	1,532	1,532	1,590	1,526	1,501	1,465	1,459	1,454	1,471	1,485	1,534	1,530		
Sept. "	1,547	1,652	1,561	1,573	1,623	1,557	1,547	1,513	1,492	1,487	1,518	1,531	1,572	1,568		
Dec. "	1,607	1,706	1,614	1,633	1,686	1,617	1,601	1,569	1,566	1,571	1,555	1,587	1,643	1,639		

(a) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20  
(c) Zeehan.

(d) Beaconsfield.

(b) Midland

**Retail Price Index-Numbers : Group (a), "B" Series and All Items ("C" Series)**  
**Additional Towns not included in Weighted Average, Thirty Towns.**

*(Base of each "Group", &c. : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

**ANNUAL.**

Town.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
<b>GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	860	872	900	958	966	984	991	1,010	1,091	1,223	1,360	1,484
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	995	1,011	1,033	1,091	1,063	1,054	1,063	1,067	1,130	1,284	1,414	1,592
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,173	1,320	1,439	1,617
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,057	1,059	1,059	1,142	1,133	1,108	1,109	1,114	1,168	1,324	1,472	1,634
<b>GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (b)</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	667	689	693	702	730	737	740	745	751	756	763	772
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	665	676	688	690	688	701	715	718	722	725	729	749
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	770	771	773	773
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	983	985	984	985	986	986	987	988	988	989	990	993
<b>GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	783	799	817	856	872	886	891	904	956	1,039	1,124	1,203
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	864	878	896	932	914	914	925	929	968	1,063	1,144	1,260
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,013	1,103	1,176	1,284
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,026	1,028	1,028	1,078	1,073	1,058	1,059	1,062	1,096	1,191	1,280	1,381
<b>GROUP III.—CLOTHING.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	834	928	1,107	1,292	1,427	1,417	1,419	1,484	1,561	1,732	1,961	2,202
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	851	930	1,112	1,283	1,408	1,415	1,419	1,501	1,595	1,788	2,007	2,268
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,584	1,757	1,986	2,255
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	852	961	1,150	1,334	1,508	1,485	1,468	1,550	1,607	1,826	2,117	2,431
<b>GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,009	1,023	1,072	1,159	1,213	1,215	1,214	1,218	1,235	1,287	1,359	1,431
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	993	1,023	1,099	1,172	1,209	1,210	1,210	1,212	1,256	1,318	1,374	1,446
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,225	1,284	1,338	1,397
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	868	909	967	1,016	1,082	1,078	1,077	1,080	1,122	1,192	1,251	1,340
<b>GROUPS I.-IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	834	867	926	1,007	1,055	1,061	1,064	1,087	1,138	1,234	1,349	1,461
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	883	915	980	1,052	1,076	1,076	1,084	1,105	1,157	1,267	1,373	1,512
Whyalla, S.A. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,175	1,277	1,379	1,515
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	956	988	1,040	1,121	1,168	1,153	1,149	1,170	1,210	1,327	1,456	1,600

**QUARTERLY.**

Town.	1948.				1949.				1950.			
	Mar. Q'tr.	June Q'tr.	Sept. Q'tr.	Dec. Q'tr.	Mar. Q'tr.	June Q'tr.	Sept. Q'tr.	Dec. Q'tr.	Mar. Q'tr.	June Q'tr.	Sept. Q'tr.	Dec. Q'tr.
<b>GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,168	1,199	1,236	1,290	1,326	1,360	1,366	1,388	1,422	1,444	1,491	1,577
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	1,211	1,257	1,305	1,363	1,391	1,391	1,409	1,464	1,506	1,535	1,602	1,724
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,255	1,296	1,337	1,392	1,405	1,413	1,433	1,503	1,543	1,558	1,611	1,757
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,261	1,290	1,333	1,410	1,449	1,456	1,472	1,511	1,539	1,562	1,654	1,781
<b>GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (b)</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	754	754	758	758	763	763	763	763	763	763	781	781
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	724	724	726	726	726	726	726	738	739	739	756	762
Whyalla, S.A. ..	771	771	771	771	773	773	773	773	773	773	773	773
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	989	989	989	989	990	990	990	990	990	990	991	1,002
<b>GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING ("B" SERIES INDEX).</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,004	1,023	1,047	1,080	1,103	1,124	1,128	1,141	1,162	1,175	1,211	1,263
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	1,018	1,047	1,076	1,111	1,128	1,129	1,140	1,177	1,204	1,221	1,268	1,345
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,063	1,088	1,113	1,147	1,155	1,160	1,173	1,215	1,239	1,249	1,280	1,369
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,153	1,170	1,196	1,243	1,266	1,271	1,280	1,304	1,322	1,336	1,392	1,473
<b>GROUP III.—CLOTHING.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,648	1,712	1,757	1,811	1,798	1,940	2,032	2,073	2,093	2,175	2,229	2,312
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	1,711	1,779	1,816	1,845	1,852	1,960	2,072	2,145	2,153	2,244	2,287	2,386
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,697	1,754	1,777	1,799	1,841	1,965	2,035	2,101	2,109	2,243	2,281	2,388
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,735	1,816	1,862	1,889	1,954	2,092	2,159	2,261	2,310	2,410	2,466	2,538
<b>GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,232	1,283	1,310	1,322	1,323	1,333	1,387	1,394	1,392	1,394	1,441	1,495
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	1,306	1,309	1,315	1,343	1,347	1,379	1,384	1,386	1,386	1,421	1,449	1,526
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,281	1,279	1,284	1,290	1,297	1,329	1,343	1,343	1,342	1,377	1,395	1,472
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,166	1,194	1,203	1,206	1,232	1,254	1,253	1,260	1,300	1,327	1,333	1,395
<b>GROUPS I.-IV.—ALL ITEMS ("C" SERIES) INDEX.</b>												
Warwick, Qld. ..	1,185	1,220	1,249	1,282	1,294	1,339	1,371	1,390	1,406	1,432	1,474	1,533
Port Augusta, S.A. ...	1,221	1,253	1,280	1,313	1,325	1,355	1,387	1,426	1,443	1,479	1,522	1,604
Whyalla, S.A. ..	1,240	1,267	1,288	1,313	1,329	1,365	1,391	1,430	1,446	1,488	1,518	1,609
Canberra, A.C.T. ..	1,280	1,313	1,347	1,375	1,408	1,445	1,466	1,503	1,531	1,567	1,614	1,689

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 10.



## Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(a): Thirty Towns.

(Base of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	941	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	939	930	946	955	942
" 1943 ..	1,042	1,066	1,234	1,090	1,027	1,048	1,055	1,049	1,042	1,013	1,035	1,033
" 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,252	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
" 1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,060	1,055
" 1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
" 1947 ..	1,110	1,123	1,337	1,126	1,114	1,116	1,110	1,104	1,090	1,095	1,115	1,109
" 1948 ..	1,258	1,277	1,494	1,290	1,271	1,264	1,274	1,269	1,245	1,265	1,267	1,272
" 1949 ..	1,388	1,401	1,696	1,445	1,414	1,395	1,418	1,413	1,397	1,411	1,395	1,417
" 1950 ..	1,572	1,570	1,899	1,634	1,616	1,579	1,605	1,595	1,595	1,597	1,602	1,604
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,459	1,467	1,789	1,510	1,492	1,466	1,516	1,530	1,515	1,521	1,496	1,517
" June ..	1,518	1,527	1,812	1,596	1,560	1,526	1,567	1,553	1,553	1,552	1,554	1,565
" Sept. ..	1,599	1,580	1,943	1,658	1,643	1,605	1,614	1,594	1,612	1,614	1,619	1,613
" Dec. ..	1,713	1,706	2,051	1,773	1,768	1,720	1,724	1,702	1,701	1,701	1,738	1,721

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(c)												
Nov. 1914 (b)	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
" 1943 ..	1,042	902	753	882	844	1,023	974	709	742	889	934	956
" 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
" 1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
" 1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
" 1947 ..	1,044	904	763	887	844	1,025	974	715	743	888	934	956
" 1948 ..	1,047	906	764	888	845	1,027	974	720	746	888	934	956
" 1949 ..	1,049	908	776	890	847	1,030	976	724	748	889	934	958
" 1950 ..	1,050	908	782	892	848	1,031	979	729	764	890	945	961
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,049	908	779	891	848	1,030	978	728	754	889	945	960
" June ..	1,049	908	783	891	848	1,030	978	728	762	890	945	961
" Sept. ..	1,050	908	783	892	848	1,031	979	728	766	890	945	961
" Dec. ..	1,050	908	783	892	848	1,031	979	732	773	890	945	962

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	755	..	..	..	..	..	780	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,255	1,327	1,269	1,374	1,261	1,264	1,271	1,599	1,570	1,463	1,612	1,326
Year 1939 ..	843	823	850	861	840	842	832	851	841	846	842	833
" 1943 ..	1,450	1,446	1,438	1,463	1,471	1,450	1,455	1,473	1,466	1,450	1,462	1,456
" 1944 ..	1,440	1,447	1,439	1,458	1,459	1,438	1,446	1,471	1,490	1,477	1,472	1,450
" 1945 ..	1,425	1,430	1,455	1,448	1,455	1,427	1,431	1,470	1,478	1,480	1,480	1,436
" 1946 ..	1,516	1,510	1,548	1,538	1,545	1,517	1,502	1,497	1,510	1,519	1,515	1,503
" 1947 ..	1,573	1,573	1,588	1,607	1,610	1,574	1,563	1,566	1,582	1,572	1,588	1,564
" 1948 ..	1,766	1,778	1,792	1,805	1,822	1,768	1,723	1,744	1,742	1,735	1,738	1,725
" 1949 ..	2,022	2,063	2,070	2,092	2,106	2,027	1,975	1,996	1,991	1,981	1,981	1,977
" 1950 ..	2,329	2,347	2,384	2,381	2,379	2,333	2,259	2,269	2,259	2,279	2,280	2,260
1950 Mar. Qtr.	2,190	2,218	2,246	2,252	2,254	2,195	2,138	2,151	2,162	2,173	2,148	2,141
" June ..	2,307	2,323	2,341	2,350	2,353	2,309	2,234	2,220	2,234	2,253	2,258	2,234
" Sept. ..	2,373	2,378	2,429	2,427	2,418	2,376	2,275	2,301	2,286	2,310	2,318	2,278
" Dec. ..	2,447	2,468	2,518	2,496	2,490	2,451	2,389	2,403	2,353	2,380	2,395	2,388

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.												
Nov. 1914 (b)	766	..	..	..	..	..	728	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,009	995	1,102	951	989	1,011	1,021	956	1,012	1,033	880	1,015
Year 1939 ..	940	901	1,048	908	888	938	977	990	1,004	980	951	978
" 1943 ..	1,166	1,072	1,276	1,112	1,094	1,160	1,155	1,193	1,216	1,198	1,159	1,159
" 1944 ..	1,171	1,079	1,287	1,108	1,096	1,165	1,158	1,198	1,221	1,190	1,167	1,162
" 1945 ..	1,163	1,080	1,280	1,107	1,098	1,165	1,159	1,198	1,217	1,192	1,165	1,163
" 1946 ..	1,170	1,083	1,296	1,111	1,101	1,165	1,164	1,197	1,217	1,193	1,164	1,168
" 1947 ..	1,216	1,125	1,350	1,156	1,147	1,210	1,187	1,218	1,239	1,213	1,185	1,191
" 1948 ..	1,268	1,184	1,445	1,214	1,208	1,264	1,249	1,276	1,295	1,272	1,240	1,252
" 1949 ..	1,364	1,266	1,520	1,296	1,271	1,358	1,321	1,351	1,358	1,340	1,320	1,324
" 1950 ..	1,470	1,361	1,640	1,402	1,359	1,464	1,426	1,449	1,470	1,442	1,417	1,428
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,435	1,337	1,602	1,351	1,332	1,429	1,401	1,427	1,441	1,417	1,375	1,403
" June ..	1,446	1,343	1,610	1,392	1,338	1,440	1,407	1,429	1,452	1,423	1,390	1,409
" Sept. ..	1,473	1,354	1,636	1,405	1,355	1,466	1,414	1,436	1,456	1,428	1,406	1,416
" Dec. ..	1,527	1,411	1,713	1,461	1,411	1,520	1,452	1,502	1,536	1,498	1,498	1,485

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20. (c) See footnote (b) on page 10.



**Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers (a) : Thirty Towns—continued.**  
*(Base of each Group : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambler.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 (b)	614	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981c	936d	950	941	945	968	923	997	943
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
" 1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
" 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,040	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
" 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
" 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
" 1947 ..	1,055	1,092	1,097	1,148	1,112	1,068	1,067	1,103	1,141	1,071	1,117	1,071
" 1948 ..	1,208	1,228	1,244	1,295	1,255	1,219	1,230	1,234	1,294	1,220	1,269	1,233
" 1949 ..	1,332	1,358	1,373	1,442	1,383	1,346	1,351	1,386	1,422	1,332	1,393	1,355
" 1950 ..	1,462	1,480	1,523	1,560	1,515	1,476	1,494	1,531	1,585	1,557	1,524	1,500
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,402	1,418	1,444	1,499	1,438	1,414	1,428	1,457	1,501	1,413	1,467	1,432
" June "	1,421	1,441	1,461	1,537	1,464	1,435	1,446	1,481	1,516	1,448	1,485	1,450
" Sept. "	1,473	1,486	1,529	1,568	1,517	1,485	1,496	1,541	1,591	1,592	1,525	1,502
" Dec. "	1,551	1,574	1,658	1,635	1,639	1,568	1,606	1,643	1,733	1,776	1,620	1,614

## GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(e)												
Nov. 1914 (b)	463	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	629	547	470	528c	535d	594	511	566	603	602	566	781
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	840	840	888	388	710	686	753	862
" 1943 ..	862	859	768	865	668	850	893	383	713	715	755	866
" 1944 ..	863	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	755	866
" 1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
" 1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	867
" 1947 ..	864	864	780	866	682	853	897	398	711	718	755	870
" 1948 ..	866	874	785	866	685	855	903	402	710	718	757	876
" 1949 ..	869	883	796	867	689	859	912	407	710	722	762	885
" 1950 ..	883	904	823	868	704	874	929	407	712	731	764	900
1950 Mar. Qtr.	873	898	816	868	692	865	921	407	710	729	762	893
" June "	878	898	816	868	692	868	925	407	710	729	762	896
" Sept. "	884	906	823	868	716	875	932	407	714	732	762	903
" Dec. "	898	915	837	868	716	887	937	407	714	734	770	908

## GROUP III.—CLOTHING.

Nov. 1914 (b)	657	..	..	..	..	756	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,125	1,408	1,452	1,568c	1,519d	1,235	1,195	1,435	1,480	1,697	1,180	1,238
Year 1939 ..	840	838	856	852	843	863	852	854	852	852	844	865
" 1943 ..	1,420	1,426	1,445	1,460	1,435	1,425	1,409	1,388	1,409	1,424	1,413	1,408
" 1944 ..	1,427	1,406	1,454	1,455	1,438	1,430	1,409	1,395	1,412	1,420	1,429	1,409
" 1945 ..	1,431	1,405	1,454	1,437	1,424	1,431	1,413	1,405	1,410	1,416	1,419	1,413
" 1946 ..	1,503	1,478	1,519	1,495	1,507	1,495	1,503	1,482	1,466	1,493	1,495	1,482
" 1947 ..	1,504	1,543	1,568	1,571	1,541	1,563	1,554	1,557	1,579	1,581	1,569	1,556
" 1948 ..	1,735	1,685	1,725	1,728	1,728	1,730	1,727	1,721	1,759	1,724	1,722	1,728
" 1949 ..	1,948	1,932	1,954	1,957	1,968	1,949	1,991	1,976	1,989	1,954	1,986	1,990
" 1950 ..	2,226	2,223	2,238	2,246	2,252	2,229	2,256	2,250	2,250	2,231	2,290	2,256
1950 Mar. Qtr.	2,099	2,116	2,124	2,124	2,128	2,105	2,125	2,130	2,129	2,082	2,151	2,125
" June "	2,197	2,195	2,225	2,221	2,239	2,202	2,227	2,231	2,234	2,211	2,275	2,228
" Sept. "	2,251	2,244	2,256	2,260	2,264	2,252	2,283	2,279	2,253	2,261	2,322	2,282
" Dec. "	2,355	2,338	2,347	2,379	2,376	2,356	2,390	2,359	2,382	2,369	2,412	2,388

## GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Nov. 1914 (b)	728	..	..	..	..	770	..	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	944	953	1,002	1,009c	988d	958	1,033	1,065	1,065	1,032	1,000	1,036
Year 1939 ..	955	983	969	996	992	962	1,022	989	999	1,017	994	1,019
" 1943 ..	1,129	1,167	1,163	1,180	1,159	1,138	1,211	1,229	1,207	1,220	1,224	1,211
" 1944 ..	1,137	1,169	1,171	1,187	1,169	1,146	1,213	1,235	1,207	1,232	1,227	1,214
" 1945 ..	1,133	1,166	1,160	1,178	1,167	1,142	1,213	1,237	1,209	1,233	1,226	1,214
" 1946 ..	1,130	1,167	1,172	1,183	1,156	1,145	1,210	1,242	1,216	1,239	1,233	1,220
" 1947 ..	1,154	1,188	1,188	1,199	1,176	1,163	1,251	1,277	1,242	1,267	1,245	1,252
" 1948 ..	1,215	1,251	1,257	1,274	1,248	1,225	1,327	1,351	1,317	1,358	1,311	1,328
" 1949 ..	1,290	1,307	1,347	1,373	1,326	1,302	1,394	1,446	1,383	1,424	1,370	1,396
" 1950 ..	1,393	1,378	1,408	1,453	1,411	1,375	1,470	1,530	1,458	1,506	1,442	1,472
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,328	1,327	1,368	1,417	1,381	1,338	1,412	1,472	1,408	1,463	1,393	1,415
" June "	1,340	1,331	1,392	1,427	1,392	1,351	1,448	1,510	1,443	1,492	1,428	1,450
" Sept. "	1,394	1,395	1,407	1,441	1,413	1,376	1,466	1,520	1,440	1,494	1,435	1,467
" Dec. "	1,418	1,458	1,463	1,526	1,457	1,433	1,555	1,617	1,534	1,576	1,512	1,566

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20. (c) Charters Towers. (d) Warwick. (e) See footnote (b) on page 10.

Retail Price "Group" Index-Numbers(a): Thirty Towns—continued  
(Base of each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.							TASMANIA.							Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 30 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.				
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.																
Nov. 1914 (b)	746	..	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	..	641	..	
Year 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054 <sup>c</sup>	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108 <sup>d</sup>	996 <sup>e</sup>	1,077	1,011	950	954	..	
" 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931	..	
" 1943 ..	1,059	1,179	1,071	1,039	1,080	1,068	1,062	1,017	1,096	1,057	1,137	1,052	1,037	1,040	..	
" 1944 ..	1,056	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029	..	
" 1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,069	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037	..	
" 1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1,070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040	..	
" 1947 ..	1,104	1,239	1,125	1,109	1,133	1,115	1,132	1,092	1,108	1,112	1,233	1,121	1,100	1,104	..	
" 1948 ..	1,251	1,387	1,272	1,257	1,279	1,262	1,316	1,273	1,276	1,280	1,407	1,303	1,256	1,260	..	
" 1949 ..	1,437	1,572	1,455	1,443	1,471	1,448	1,495	1,459	1,460	1,473	1,500	1,484	1,394	1,399	..	
" 1950 ..	1,597	1,728	1,613	1,610	1,636	1,608	1,574	1,534	1,582	1,612	1,613	1,565	1,568	1,570	..	
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,514	1,648	1,537	1,517	1,554	1,525	1,498	1,455	1,514	1,545	1,566	1,490	1,473	1,477	..	
" June "	1,559	1,694	1,584	1,561	1,602	1,570	1,537	1,492	1,549	1,568	1,566	1,526	1,520	1,524	..	
" Sept. "	1,608	1,737	1,623	1,630	1,650	1,619	1,597	1,556	1,577	1,595	1,638	1,585	1,582	1,585	..	
" Dec. "	1,707	1,833	1,708	1,733	1,739	1,717	1,665	1,631	1,686	1,738	1,682	1,660	1,689	1,692	..	

GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(f)																
Nov. 1914 (b)	586	..	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	..	649	..	..
Year 1921 ..	754	578	616 <sup>c</sup>	649	779	709	870	676	294 <sup>d</sup>	150 <sup>e</sup>	495	729	877	823	..	..
" 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	830	704	806	887	965	947	..	..
" 1943 ..	885	1,038	898	974	1,058	902	931	859	850	770	805	894	975	956	..	..
" 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,059	902	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956	..	..
" 1945 ..	886	1,037	899	974	1,059	902	933	862	851	770	804	896	975	956	..	..
" 1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	930	864	853	770	809	898	976	957	..	..
" 1947 ..	887	1,080	900	981	1,064	904	936	866	853	770	814	899	977	958	..	..
" 1948 ..	889	1,082	917	985	1,060	910	937	871	853	770	815	901	979	960	..	..
" 1949 ..	895	1,095	956	1,005	1,080	917	940	873	853	773	817	904	982	964	..	..
" 1950 ..	901	1,126	967	1,028	1,094	926	941	876	855	778	818	906	987	968	..	..
1950 Mar. Qtr.	898	1,122	967	1,019	1,092	922	941	874	855	778	817	905	984	966	..	..
" June "	901	1,122	967	1,026	1,095	925	941	876	855	778	817	905	986	967	..	..
" Sept. "	902	1,129	967	1,032	1,095	927	941	877	855	778	817	906	987	969	..	..
" Dec. "	904	1,129	967	1,034	1,095	928	941	877	855	778	821	906	989	971	..	..

GROUP III.—CLOTHING.																
Nov. 1914 (b)	698	..	..	..	..	..	825	..	..	..	..	..	..	754	..	..
Year 1921 ..	1,232	1,376	1,382 <sup>c</sup>	1,454	1,320	1,277	1,427	1,670	1,525 <sup>d</sup>	1,405 <sup>e</sup>	1,504	1,513	1,248	1,290	..	..
" 1939 ..	832	855	842	849	847	834	856	853	843	844	853	854	841	841	..	..
" 1943 ..	1,396	1,400	1,390	1,374	1,396	1,396	1,427	1,404	1,409	1,416	1,394	1,418	1,440	1,440	..	..
" 1944 ..	1,401	1,429	1,408	1,403	1,419	1,404	1,428	1,406	1,423	1,407	1,425	1,420	1,435	1,435	..	..
" 1945 ..	1,410	1,436	1,407	1,413	1,412	1,412	1,420	1,414	1,426	1,425	1,430	1,419	1,425	1,427	..	..
" 1946 ..	1,497	1,516	1,478	1,482	1,489	1,497	1,510	1,497	1,513	1,538	1,521	1,508	1,505	1,506	..	..
" 1947 ..	1,565	1,594	1,552	1,555	1,553	1,567	1,572	1,570	1,570	1,599	1,579	1,573	1,566	1,567	..	..
" 1948 ..	1,756	1,769	1,706	1,733	1,745	1,755	1,748	1,719	1,720	1,753	1,732	1,738	1,744	1,745	..	..
" 1949 ..	2,033	2,014	1,975	2,003	2,011	2,020	1,992	1,984	1,982	1,996	1,993	1,990	1,997	1,999	..	..
" 1950 ..	2,289	2,285	2,239	2,265	2,276	2,287	2,286	2,273	2,273	2,299	2,282	2,282	2,286	2,287	..	..
1950 Mar. Qtr.	2,170	2,133	2,116	2,159	2,147	2,166	2,143	2,141	2,131	2,147	2,118	2,141	2,156	2,158	..	..
" June "	2,264	2,258	2,206	2,228	2,249	2,261	2,272	2,258	2,251	2,283	2,293	2,268	2,261	2,262	..	..
" Sept. "	2,315	2,335	2,271	2,290	2,315	2,315	2,328	2,307	2,297	2,333	2,336	2,321	2,316	2,317	..	..
" Dec. "	2,408	2,413	2,361	2,382	2,394	2,407	2,401	2,386	2,412	2,433	2,381	2,397	2,410	2,410	..	..

GROUP IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.																
Nov. 1914 (b)	780	..	..	..	..	..	699	..	..	..	..	..	..	749	..	..
Year 1921 ..	1,029	1,030	1,016 <sup>c</sup>	977	1,102	1,029	932	985	941 <sup>d</sup>	960 <sup>e</sup>	959	952	1,010	1,009	..	..
" 1939 ..	954	974	948	912	1,034	956	938	947	874	882	881	934	962	962	..	..
" 1943 ..	1,136	1,179	1,140	1,084	1,205	1,140	1,105	1,101	1,005	1,011	1,044	1,093	1,160	1,159	..	..
" 1944 ..	1,144	1,189	1,143	1,100	1,216	1,147	1,100	1,097	997	1,002	1,052	1,089	1,165	1,164	..	..
" 1945 ..	1,138	1,176	1,136	1,094	1,208	1,141	1,100	1,096	997	996	1,053	1,089	1,161	1,160	..	..
" 1946 ..	1,143	1,173	1,153	1,098	1,212	1,146	1,104	1,103	1,004	999	1,058	1,094	1,169	1,160	..	..
" 1947 ..	1,158	1,181	1,170	1,113	1,220	1,160	1,130	1,126	1,029	1,022	1,080	1,118	1,197	1,197	..	..
" 1948 ..	1,202	1,239	1,224	1,166	1,274	1,206	1,175	1,171	1,067	1,060	1,105	1,163	1,257	1,256	..	..
" 1949 ..	1,288	1,300	1,302	1,252	1,368	1,200	1,219	1,218	1,108	1,099	1,145	1,206	1,338	1,336	..	..
" 1950 ..	1,357	1,361	1,372	1,318	1,453	1,358	1,293	1,291	1,171	1,166	1,201	1,278	1,435	1,432	..	..
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,346	1,348	1,361	1,309	1,418	1,347	1,229	1,229	1,113	1,107	1,149	1,216	1,402	1,398	..	..
" June "	1,349	1,357	1,367	1,312	1,436	1,351	1,246	1,238	1,127	1,122	1,157	1,230	1,413	1,410	..	..
" Sept. "	1,357	1,363	1,372	1,318	1,444	1,359	1,312	1,317	1,196	1,189	1,202	1,301	1,432	1,429	..	..
" Dec. "	1,374	1,377	1,386	1,331	1,515	1,376	1,383	1,378	1,247	1,244	1,278	1,366	1,492	1,489	..	..

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) For index-numbers for Capital Cities, November, 1914 to 1920, see page 20. (c) Midland Junction. (d) Zeelahn. (e) Beaconsfield. (f) See footnote (b) on page 10.

3. "B" Series Retail Price Index: Food, Groceries and Rent.—This index measures the prices of food and groceries and the rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses. It was first compiled for the year 1925, and retrospectively for several earlier years. It was designed to replace the "A" Series Index (food, groceries and rent of all houses), which was the original index compiled in 1912. The first of the following tables covers only the six capital cities and gives index-numbers for the two Groups of the regimen involved split up into their various Sections, while the second table gives the "B" Series Index dissected into its two Groups for each of the 30 towns, the weighted averages of the 5 towns in each State, the six capital cities and the 30 towns. The "B" Series Index (split up into its two Groups) for four additional towns not included in the weighted averages appears on page 24.

**Retail Price Index-Numbers(a): Capital Cities—"B" Series.**

(Base of each Section: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

TOWN.	1907.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1939.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950
<b>SECTION A.—GROCERIES.</b>										
Sydney ..	510	574	627	1,115	994	969	1,026	1,167	1,298	1,411
Melbourne ..	461	521	562	1,070	957	929	991	1,153	1,296	1,416
Brisbane ..	547	614	607	1,105	944	935	994	1,165	1,305	1,387
Adelaide ..	510	541	598	1,076	939	944	995	1,144	1,263	1,374
Perth ..	572	720	628	1,103	966	966	1,032	1,183	1,268	1,380
Hobart ..	501	566	604	1,087	947	934	991	1,143	1,272	1,390
SIX CAPITALS (b)	499	564	599	1,093	969	950	1,008	1,161	1,292	1,404

<b>SECTION B.—DAIRY PRODUCE.</b>										
Sydney ..	551	574	656	1,080	851	956	977	1,165	1,306	1,439
Melbourne ..	571	567	635	1,087	885	965	998	1,189	1,330	1,441
Brisbane ..	495	581	588	983	793	930	955	1,115	1,233	1,312
Adelaide ..	548	651	705	1,018	800	893	928	1,136	1,258	1,353
Perth ..	709	733	735	1,152	870	981	1,000	1,166	1,292	1,436
Hobart ..	564	587	695	1,091	844	963	989	1,181	1,319	1,410
SIX CAPITALS (b)	563	591	654	1,072	853	952	978	1,165	1,301	1,418

<b>SECTION C.—MEAT.</b>										
Sydney ..	519	501	668	960	935	1,202	1,343	1,456	1,571	1,899
Melbourne ..	557	485	663	1,030	968	1,288	1,365	1,502	1,649	2,000
Brisbane ..	535	488	610	897	822	1,079	1,223	1,343	1,453	1,695
Adelaide ..	553	541	784	1,095	920	1,188	1,288	1,423	1,543	1,776
Perth ..	789	824	881	1,103	958	1,248	1,290	1,411	1,785	2,025
Hobart ..	668	638	780	1,244	961	1,338	1,446	1,662	1,945	1,962
SIX CAPITALS (b)	558	522	691	1,010	936	1,223	1,332	1,458	1,603	1,909

<b>SECTIONS A, B AND C COMBINED.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.</b>										
Sydney ..	523	553	646	1,062	936	1,039	1,110	1,258	1,388	1,572
Melbourne ..	517	523	610	1,063	942	1,052	1,110	1,274	1,418	1,605
Brisbane ..	530	569	603	1,014	864	981	1,055	1,208	1,332	1,462
Adelaide ..	532	570	679	1,066	897	1,006	1,067	1,230	1,351	1,494
Perth ..	670	753	728	1,166	938	1,059	1,104	1,251	1,437	1,597
Hobart ..	565	592	678	1,133	923	1,069	1,132	1,316	1,495	1,574
SIX CAPITALS (b)	533	559	640	1,064	927	1,036	1,100	1,256	1,394	1,566

<b>SECTION D.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (c)</b>										
Sydney ..	593	701	760	989	1,035	1,043	1,044	1,047	1,049	1,050
Melbourne ..	455	569	628	820	955	973	974	974	976	979
Brisbane ..	283	373	466	630	854	863	864	866	869	883
Adelaide ..	510	706	655	809	888	894	897	903	912	929
Perth ..	458	524	589	739	881	886	887	889	895	901
Hobart ..	405	452	518	881	925	936	936	937	940	941
SIX CAPITALS (b)	497	612	662	862	965	976	977	979	982	987

<b>ALL SECTIONS COMBINED.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.</b>										
Sydney ..	548	606	687	1,036	972	1,038	1,082	1,173	1,252	1,365
Melbourne ..	495	539	616	977	945	1,019	1,054	1,154	1,243	1,357
Brisbane ..	442	500	554	877	858	932	978	1,072	1,149	1,233
Adelaide ..	524	618	671	975	891	960	998	1,100	1,177	1,270
Perth ..	594	672	679	982	914	989	1,017	1,107	1,222	1,322
Hobart ..	508	542	621	1,044	922	1,014	1,053	1,165	1,275	1,324
SIX CAPITALS (b)	520	578	648	992	939	1,010	1,050	1,145	1,230	1,336

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) Weighted average. (c) See footnote (b) on page 10.

**"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns.***(Base of each Group (a) : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)*

Period.	NEW SOUTH WALES.						VICTORIA.					
	Sydney.	Newcastle.	Broken Hill.	Goulburn.	Bathurst.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Warrnambool.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.												
Nov. 1914 ..	638	..	..	..	..	..	616	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	964	977	972	950	935	964	923	928	919	911	948	924
Year 1939 ..	936	965	1,106	991	940	942	942	930	930	946	955	942
" 1943 ..	1,042	1,066	1,234	1,090	1,027	1,048	1,055	1,040	1,042	1,013	1,035	1,053
" 1944 ..	1,025	1,045	1,232	1,079	1,024	1,032	1,049	1,037	1,042	1,006	1,037	1,047
" 1945 ..	1,035	1,048	1,278	1,073	1,036	1,041	1,057	1,045	1,046	1,006	1,050	1,055
" 1946 ..	1,039	1,049	1,277	1,070	1,048	1,044	1,052	1,051	1,050	1,012	1,079	1,051
" 1947 ..	1,110	1,123	1,337	1,126	1,114	1,116	1,110	1,104	1,090	1,095	1,115	1,109
" 1948 ..	1,258	1,277	1,494	1,290	1,271	1,264	1,274	1,260	1,245	1,265	1,267	1,272
" 1949 ..	1,388	1,401	1,606	1,445	1,411	1,395	1,418	1,413	1,397	1,411	1,395	1,417
" 1950 ..	1,572	1,570	1,899	1,634	1,616	1,579	1,605	1,595	1,595	1,597	1,602	1,604
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,459	1,467	1,789	1,510	1,492	1,466	1,516	1,530	1,515	1,521	1,496	1,517
" June ..	1,518	1,527	1,812	1,596	1,560	1,526	1,567	1,553	1,553	1,552	1,554	1,565
" Sept. ..	1,599	1,580	1,943	1,658	1,643	1,605	1,612	1,594	1,612	1,614	1,619	1,613
" Dec. ..	1,713	1,706	2,051	1,773	1,768	1,720	1,724	1,702	1,701	1,701	1,738	1,721
1950.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
January ..	1,447	1,456	1,782	1,500	1,480	1,455	1,492	1,512	1,496	1,496	1,473	1,492
February ..	1,457	1,466	1,781	1,505	1,491	1,464	1,518	1,532	1,524	1,527	1,503	1,519
March ..	1,472	1,479	1,803	1,525	1,506	1,480	1,539	1,547	1,525	1,540	1,511	1,539
April ..	1,514	1,518	1,808	1,583	1,555	1,521	1,563	1,551	1,543	1,551	1,542	1,562
May ..	1,520	1,530	1,812	1,597	1,561	1,527	1,568	1,553	1,555	1,552	1,537	1,566
June ..	1,521	1,533	1,816	1,608	1,563	1,529	1,570	1,555	1,562	1,552	1,502	1,563
July ..	1,536	1,548	1,830	1,624	1,597	1,544	1,594	1,573	1,586	1,578	1,589	1,593
August ..	1,595	1,575	1,958	1,649	1,639	1,601	1,582	1,566	1,588	1,588	1,596	1,582
September ..	1,665	1,618	2,040	1,702	1,693	1,669	1,665	1,643	1,662	1,676	1,671	1,665
October ..	1,673	1,629	2,031	1,711	1,696	1,677	1,701	1,670	1,667	1,680	1,689	1,698
November ..	1,713	1,709	2,044	1,793	1,774	1,721	1,726	1,712	1,708	1,707	1,758	1,724
December ..	1,754	1,779	2,077	1,815	1,833	1,763	1,744	1,725	1,728	1,717	1,768	1,742
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (b)												
Nov. 1914 ..	758	..	..	..	..	..	608	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	1,000	885	559	881	596	966	845	479	527	668	685	789
Year 1939 ..	1,035	890	764	871	843	1,015	955	714	731	876	921	938
" 1943 ..	1,042	902	753	882	844	1,023	974	709	742	889	934	956
" 1944 ..	1,043	903	753	882	843	1,023	974	711	743	888	934	955
" 1945 ..	1,043	903	760	885	843	1,024	973	710	744	887	934	955
" 1946 ..	1,043	904	761	886	843	1,024	973	713	743	887	934	955
" 1947 ..	1,044	904	763	887	844	1,025	974	715	743	888	934	956
" 1948 ..	1,047	906	764	888	845	1,027	974	720	746	888	934	956
" 1949 ..	1,049	908	776	890	847	1,030	976	724	748	889	934	958
" 1950 ..	1,050	908	782	892	848	1,031	979	729	764	890	945	961
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,049	908	779	891	848	1,030	978	728	754	889	945	960
" June ..	1,049	908	783	891	848	1,030	978	728	762	890	945	961
" Sept. ..	1,050	908	783	892	848	1,031	979	728	766	890	945	961
" Dec. ..	1,050	908	783	892	848	1,031	979	732	773	890	945	962
GROUPS I-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES, AND HOUSING.												
Nov. 1914 ..	680	..	..	..	..	..	613	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	977	944	825	926	815	965	895	769	780	844	855	876
Year 1939 ..	972	934	970	942	900	969	945	849	851	917	940	938
" 1943 ..	1,040	1,000	1,044	1,007	953	1,036	1,021	908	923	962	993	1,012
" 1944 ..	1,030	987	1,055	999	951	1,026	1,017	907	923	958	995	1,009
" 1945 ..	1,036	989	1,073	997	958	1,032	1,022	912	926	957	1,008	1,013
" 1946 ..	1,038	990	1,073	996	966	1,034	1,019	917	928	961	1,020	1,011
" 1947 ..	1,082	1,035	1,110	1,030	1,006	1,078	1,054	950	952	1,012	1,042	1,046
" 1948 ..	1,173	1,129	1,206	1,130	1,102	1,169	1,154	1,052	1,048	1,116	1,134	1,146
" 1949 ..	1,252	1,205	1,333	1,225	1,190	1,249	1,243	1,141	1,140	1,204	1,212	1,235
" 1950 ..	1,365	1,309	1,459	1,341	1,313	1,362	1,357	1,254	1,267	1,318	1,342	1,350
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,295	1,246	1,391	1,265	1,238	1,293	1,303	1,214	1,215	1,271	1,277	1,296
" June ..	1,332	1,282	1,407	1,317	1,279	1,329	1,334	1,228	1,241	1,290	1,313	1,326
" Sept. ..	1,381	1,315	1,486	1,356	1,329	1,377	1,363	1,252	1,278	1,328	1,352	1,355
" Dec. ..	1,451	1,391	1,552	1,426	1,405	1,448	1,429	1,320	1,335	1,381	1,425	1,421

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10.

(b) See footnote (b) on page 10.

**"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—continued.**

(Base of each Group (a) : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	QUEENSLAND.						SOUTH AUSTRALIA.					
	Brisbane.	Toowoomba.	Rockhampton.	Townsville.	Bundaberg.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Adelaide.	Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.	Port Pirie.	Mt. Gambier.	Peterborough.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.
Nov. 1914 ..	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981b	936c	950	941	945	968	923	997	949
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
" 1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
" 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
" 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
" 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
" 1947 ..	1,055	1,092	1,097	1,148	1,112	1,068	1,067	1,103	1,141	1,071	1,117	1,071
" 1948 ..	1,208	1,228	1,244	1,295	1,255	1,219	1,230	1,234	1,294	1,220	1,269	1,233
" 1949 ..	1,332	1,358	1,373	1,442	1,383	1,346	1,351	1,386	1,422	1,332	1,393	1,355
" 1950 ..	1,462	1,480	1,523	1,560	1,515	1,476	1,494	1,531	1,585	1,557	1,524	1,500
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,402	1,418	1,444	1,499	1,438	1,414	1,428	1,457	1,501	1,413	1,467	1,432
" June ..	1,421	1,441	1,461	1,537	1,464	1,435	1,446	1,481	1,516	1,448	1,485	1,450
" Sept. ..	1,473	1,486	1,529	1,568	1,517	1,485	1,496	1,541	1,591	1,502	1,525	1,502
" Dec. ..	1,551	1,574	1,658	1,635	1,639	1,568	1,606	1,643	1,733	1,776	1,620	1,614

**GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.**

Nov. 1914 ..	614	..	..	..	..	..	683	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	955	895	949	981b	936c	950	941	945	968	923	997	949
Year 1939 ..	864	823	904	961	912	872	897	973	996	937	981	904
" 1943 ..	975	974	995	1,041	1,033	982	1,003	1,044	1,076	984	1,039	1,007
" 1944 ..	965	1,003	1,002	1,049	1,027	977	993	1,030	1,061	996	1,033	997
" 1945 ..	966	1,009	1,016	1,055	1,025	980	1,002	1,034	1,074	1,014	1,054	1,006
" 1946 ..	981	1,018	1,016	1,071	1,039	993	1,006	1,049	1,079	1,027	1,056	1,011
" 1947 ..	1,055	1,092	1,097	1,148	1,112	1,068	1,067	1,103	1,141	1,071	1,117	1,071
" 1948 ..	1,208	1,228	1,244	1,295	1,255	1,219	1,230	1,234	1,294	1,220	1,269	1,233
" 1949 ..	1,332	1,358	1,373	1,442	1,383	1,346	1,351	1,386	1,422	1,332	1,393	1,355
" 1950 ..	1,462	1,480	1,523	1,560	1,515	1,476	1,494	1,531	1,585	1,557	1,524	1,500
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,402	1,418	1,444	1,499	1,438	1,414	1,428	1,457	1,501	1,413	1,467	1,432
" June ..	1,421	1,441	1,461	1,537	1,464	1,435	1,446	1,481	1,516	1,448	1,485	1,450
" Sept. ..	1,473	1,486	1,529	1,568	1,517	1,485	1,496	1,541	1,591	1,502	1,525	1,502
" Dec. ..	1,551	1,574	1,658	1,635	1,639	1,568	1,606	1,643	1,733	1,776	1,620	1,614
1950 Jan.	1,395	1,411	1,434	1,493	1,434	1,407	1,419	1,443	1,495	1,398	1,462	1,423
February ..	1,402	1,416	1,443	1,497	1,436	1,413	1,431	1,461	1,502	1,413	1,466	1,435
March ..	1,409	1,425	1,455	1,507	1,445	1,421	1,435	1,466	1,506	1,427	1,473	1,438
April ..	1,416	1,437	1,458	1,533	1,459	1,430	1,442	1,474	1,512	1,438	1,479	1,446
May ..	1,425	1,443	1,461	1,543	1,403	1,438	1,447	1,482	1,519	1,440	1,479	1,451
June ..	1,423	1,443	1,465	1,536	1,471	1,436	1,449	1,486	1,517	1,467	1,496	1,453
July ..	1,442	1,457	1,480	1,551	1,493	1,455	1,463	1,501	1,540	1,502	1,512	1,468
August ..	1,457	1,464	1,484	1,551	1,509	1,467	1,465	1,517	1,550	1,533	1,517	1,471
September ..	1,519	1,537	1,623	1,602	1,548	1,534	1,550	1,604	1,684	1,740	1,545	1,567
October ..	1,540	1,574	1,649	1,623	1,623	1,558	1,571	1,615	1,717	1,757	1,557	1,580
November ..	1,548	1,563	1,643	1,626	1,630	1,564	1,612	1,639	1,723	1,761	1,627	1,619
December ..	1,564	1,585	1,682	1,656	1,665	1,583	1,634	1,675	1,759	1,811	1,675	1,643

**GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES).(d)**

Nov. 1914 ..	463	..	..	..	..	..	611	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	629	547	470	528b	535c	594	819	566	603	492	566	781
Year 1939 ..	854	847	753	861	861	840	888	388	710	686	753	864
" 1943 ..	862	859	768	865	668	850	893	383	713	715	755	866
" 1944 ..	865	859	767	865	672	850	892	385	713	715	754	866
" 1945 ..	863	861	768	865	674	851	892	386	713	715	755	866
" 1946 ..	863	862	773	866	681	851	894	390	712	716	755	867
" 1947 ..	864	864	780	866	682	853	897	398	711	718	755	870
" 1948 ..	866	874	785	866	685	855	903	402	710	718	757	876
" 1949 ..	869	883	796	867	689	859	912	407	710	722	762	885
" 1950 ..	883	904	823	868	704	874	929	407	712	731	764	900
1950 Mar. Qtr.	873	898	816	868	692	865	921	407	710	729	762	893
" June ..	878	898	816	868	692	868	925	407	710	729	762	896
" Sept. ..	884	906	823	868	716	875	932	407	714	732	762	903
" Dec. ..	898	915	837	868	716	887	937	407	714	734	770	908

**GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.**

Nov. 1914 ..	560	..	..	..	..	..	658	..	..	..	..	..
" 1921 ..	840	771	779	820b	794c	824	898	811	839	770	844	885
Year 1939 ..	858	830	843	920	804	858	891	743	882	838	890	885
" 1943 ..	929	927	904	970	888	928	958	784	932	877	926	950
" 1944 ..	923	945	908	975	886	926	951	776	923	884	922	944
" 1945 ..	924	949	917	979	886	928	957	779	931	895	935	949
" 1946 ..	932	955	919	989	897	936	960	790	933	903	936	952
" 1947 ..	978	1,001	971	1,036	942	982	998	825	971	931	973	990
" 1948 ..	1,072	1,087	1,063	1,125	1,030	1,074	1,100	907	1,063	1,022	1,067	1,091
" 1949 ..	1,149	1,170	1,145	1,214	1,110	1,153	1,177	1,001	1,141	1,091	1,144	1,168
" 1950 ..	1,233	1,252	1,247	1,286	1,195	1,238	1,270	1,089	1,241	1,232	1,224	1,262
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,193	1,212	1,196	1,249	1,144	1,197	1,227	1,044	1,189	1,143	1,189	1,218
" June ..	1,206	1,226	1,206	1,273	1,160	1,211	1,240	1,058	1,198	1,165	1,199	1,231
" Sept. ..	1,240	1,257	1,250	1,291	1,201	1,244	1,272	1,095	1,245	1,253	1,224	1,265
" Dec. ..	1,293	1,313	1,334	1,332	1,275	1,299	1,341	1,157	1,332	1,366	1,285	1,335

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) Charters Towers. (c) Warwick. (d) See footnote (b) on page 10.

**"B" Series Retail Price Index-Numbers : Thirty Towns—continued.**

(Base of each Group (a) : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Period.	WESTERN AUSTRALIA.						TASMANIA.						Weighted Average, Six Capital Cities.	Weighted Average, 80 Towns, Australia.
	Perth and Fremantle.	Kalgoorlie and Boulder.	Northam.	Bunbury.	Geraldton.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.	Hobart.	Launceston.	Burnie.	Devonport.	Queenstown.	Weighted Average, 5 Towns.		
GROUP I.—FOOD AND GROCERIES.														
Nov. 1914 ..	746	..	..	..	..	687	..	..	..	..	..	..	641	..
" 1921 ..	1,005	1,120	1,054 <sup>b</sup>	1,049	1,031	1,033	1,027	958	1,108 <sup>c</sup>	996 <sup>d</sup>	1,077	1,011	910	954
Year 1939 ..	938	1,092	972	967	947	951	923	914	941	933	1,018	925	927	931
" 1943 ..	1,059	1,179	1,071	1,039	1,080	1,068	1,062	1,017	1,096	1,057	1,137	1,052	1,037	1,040
" 1944 ..	1,055	1,180	1,066	1,036	1,095	1,066	1,035	988	1,030	1,020	1,135	1,023	1,026	1,029
" 1945 ..	1,060	1,191	1,066	1,045	1,084	1,070	1,043	999	1,024	1,026	1,153	1,032	1,034	1,037
" 1946 ..	1,059	1,192	1,073	1,057	1,084	1,070	1,069	1,018	1,048	1,052	1,173	1,055	1,036	1,040
" 1947 ..	1,104	1,239	1,125	1,109	1,133	1,115	1,132	1,092	1,108	1,112	1,233	1,121	1,100	1,104
" 1948 ..	1,251	1,387	1,272	1,257	1,279	1,262	1,316	1,273	1,276	1,280	1,407	1,303	1,256	1,260
" 1949 ..	1,437	1,572	1,455	1,443	1,471	1,448	1,495	1,459	1,469	1,473	1,500	1,484	1,394	1,399
" 1950 ..	1,597	1,728	1,613	1,610	1,636	1,608	1,574	1,534	1,582	1,612	1,613	1,505	1,566	1,570
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,514	1,648	1,537	1,517	1,554	1,525	1,498	1,455	1,514	1,568	1,566	1,400	1,473	1,477
" June ..	1,559	1,694	1,584	1,561	1,602	1,570	1,537	1,492	1,549	1,568	1,566	1,526	1,520	1,524
" Sept. ..	1,608	1,737	1,623	1,630	1,650	1,619	1,597	1,556	1,577	1,595	1,638	1,585	1,582	1,585
" Dec. ..	1,707	1,833	1,708	1,733	1,739	1,717	1,605	1,631	1,686	1,738	1,682	1,660	1,689	1,692
1950.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
January ..	1,506	1,639	1,521	1,507	1,544	1,516	1,521	1,485	1,512	1,560	1,588	1,514	1,459	1,464
February ..	1,509	1,649	1,535	1,519	1,554	1,521	1,486	1,428	1,517	1,532	1,562	1,474	1,472	1,477
March ..	1,527	1,657	1,554	1,524	1,565	1,537	1,486	1,453	1,514	1,543	1,547	1,482	1,488	1,491
April ..	1,548	1,683	1,573	1,548	1,583	1,559	1,528	1,480	1,551	1,566	1,561	1,517	1,516	1,519
May ..	1,561	1,696	1,584	1,563	1,606	1,572	1,541	1,496	1,549	1,571	1,570	1,530	1,522	1,525
June ..	1,568	1,702	1,594	1,573	1,616	1,579	1,542	1,499	1,546	1,567	1,567	1,531	1,523	1,527
July ..	1,584	1,715	1,602	1,590	1,627	1,595	1,560	1,518	1,560	1,577	1,583	1,549	1,542	1,546
August ..	1,579	1,708	1,597	1,585	1,621	1,589	1,593	1,558	1,568	1,581	1,627	1,582	1,563	1,567
September ..	1,660	1,780	1,671	1,714	1,701	1,672	1,638	1,591	1,602	1,628	1,704	1,624	1,640	1,642
October ..	1,735	1,838	1,683	1,770	1,716	1,742	1,648	1,597	1,686	1,726	1,663	1,638	1,663	1,665
November ..	1,688	1,820	1,713	1,711	1,745	1,699	1,649	1,622	1,682	1,735	1,679	1,647	1,688	1,691
December ..	1,699	1,841	1,729	1,718	1,756	1,711	1,699	1,674	1,691	1,734	1,705	1,694	1,716	1,720
GROUP II.—HOUSING (4 AND 5-ROOMED HOUSES). (e)														
Nov. 1914 ..	586	..	..	..	..	525	..	..	..	..	..	..	649	..
" 1921 ..	754	578	616 <sup>b</sup>	619	779	709	870	676	201 <sup>c</sup>	150 <sup>d</sup>	495	719	877	823
Year 1939 ..	881	1,318	886	1,005	1,064	919	925	851	836	703	800	887	965	947
" 1943 ..	885	1,038	898	970	1,058	903	931	859	850	770	805	894	975	956
" 1944 ..	886	1,036	899	974	1,050	903	932	861	850	770	804	895	976	956
" 1945 ..	886	1,037	899	975	1,061	903	933	862	851	770	804	895	975	956
" 1946 ..	886	1,055	900	980	1,064	904	936	864	853	770	809	898	976	957
" 1947 ..	887	1,080	900	981	1,061	907	936	866	853	770	814	899	977	958
" 1948 ..	889	1,082	917	985	1,066	910	937	871	853	770	815	901	979	960
" 1949 ..	895	1,095	950	1,005	1,080	917	910	873	853	773	817	904	982	964
" 1950 ..	901	1,126	967	1,028	1,094	926	941	876	855	778	818	906	987	968
1950 Mar. Qtr.	898	1,122	967	1,019	1,092	922	941	874	855	778	817	905	984	966
" June ..	901	1,122	967	1,026	1,095	925	941	876	855	778	817	905	986	967
" Sept. ..	902	1,129	967	1,032	1,095	927	941	877	855	778	817	906	987	969
" Dec. ..	904	1,129	967	1,034	1,095	928	941	877	855	778	821	906	989	971
GROUPS I.-II.—FOOD, GROCERIES AND HOUSING.														
Nov. 1914 ..	689	..	..	..	..	630	..	..	..	..	..	..	644	..
" 1921 ..	916	928	898 <sup>b</sup>	907	942	918	971	858	819 <sup>c</sup>	696 <sup>d</sup>	871	911	924	907
Year 1939 ..	914	1,178	935	979	990	936	922	887	898	865	933	908	939	935
" 1943 ..	989	1,122	1,001	1,010	1,069	1,001	1,009	953	998	942	1,005	988	1,011	1,005
" 1944 ..	987	1,121	999	1,010	1,079	1,000	992	936	958	940	1,004	970	1,004	998
" 1945 ..	990	1,128	1,003	1,015	1,072	1,002	998	943	954	924	1,014	977	1,009	1,003
" 1946 ..	989	1,136	1,001	1,024	1,073	1,003	1,014	956	969	939	1,028	992	1,010	1,005
" 1947 ..	1,017	1,171	1,034	1,056	1,103	1,031	1,083	1,001	1,006	976	1,067	1,032	1,050	1,045
" 1948 ..	1,107	1,266	1,131	1,148	1,193	1,122	1,165	1,113	1,108	1,078	1,173	1,143	1,145	1,140
" 1949 ..	1,222	1,382	1,257	1,269	1,315	1,237	1,275	1,227	1,225	1,197	1,207	1,254	1,230	1,226
" 1950 ..	1,322	1,489	1,358	1,380	1,421	1,338	1,324	1,274	1,295	1,283	1,299	1,304	1,336	1,332
1950 Mar. Qtr.	1,270	1,439	1,311	1,319	1,370	1,286	1,277	1,226	1,254	1,242	1,270	1,258	1,279	1,275
" June ..	1,299	1,467	1,349	1,349	1,401	1,315	1,301	1,248	1,275	1,257	1,270	1,280	1,308	1,303
" Sept. ..	1,329	1,496	1,364	1,393	1,430	1,345	1,337	1,287	1,292	1,273	1,314	1,316	1,346	1,341
" Dec. ..	1,390	1,554	1,415	1,457	1,484	1,406	1,379	1,333	1,358	1,300	1,343	1,362	1,412	1,407

(a) See footnote (a) on page 10. (b) Midland Junction. (c) Zeehan. (d) Beaconsfield. (e) See footnote (b) on page 10.



### § 8. Retail Price Index-Numbers, 200 Towns.

To supplement the information collected monthly for the 30 towns specified in the preceding pages, a special investigation into prices in 70 additional towns was undertaken in November, 1913. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and again in November, 1915, when the number of additional towns was increased to 120. In November, 1923, the number was further increased to 170. Information in regard to prices obtained in November of each of the years 1923 to 1942 related, therefore, to 200 towns. After 1942, collection of returns of these prices was discontinued. The results of the first investigation were published in Labour Bulletin No. 5 (pp. 26-33), and details respecting succeeding investigations were incorporated in the Labour Bulletins and Reports issued subsequently by this Bureau.

### § 9. Changes in the Regimen.

**I. General.**—Since the original compilation of retail price indexes by the Bureau in 1912, the regimens of the several Groups and Sections have undergone some modifications, with the object of improving the indexes as measures of the variations in retail prices in individual towns, as between the many towns covered, and in the weighted average of all towns or the various combinations thereof. These modifications are briefly as follows:—

(i) *Food and Groceries.*—The regimen for food and groceries, originally introduced in 1912, was based upon the relative consumption of the years 1906 to 1910, and the first revision was made in September Quarter, 1932 and was based on the relative consumption of the years 1927 to 1929. The regimen in use up to that date will be found on page 13 of Labour Report No. 23. A second revision took place in September Quarter, 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in para. 2 below.

(ii) *Housing.*—The housing constituent of the regimen has also been revised. Originally the rentals of all houses from "3 rooms and under" to "8 rooms and over" were tabulated, and they were continuously used in the "A" Series Index (food and rent of all houses) from 1912 to 30th June, 1938, when this series was discontinued. They were also used in the "C" Series Index up to and including the year 1924. From the following year rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses only were used in the "C" Series Index, and in the same year they were combined with food and groceries to form the "B" Series Index.

Following on the resolutions of the 1936 Conference of Statisticians (see para. 2 below), the rentals of 4 and 5-roomed houses in each of the six capital cities and "second" important town in each of the States (excepting Western Australia) have been determined on a somewhat different basis (for convenience designated the "Census" basis) from that previously used. For the six capital cities, this base was introduced into the indexes at the December Quarter, 1936, and for the "second" towns at the March Quarter, 1937. The basis adopted was that of the average rents, as disclosed by the 1933 Census, of 4 and 5-roomed houses occupied by fully-employed wage and salary earners in all industrial groups with the exception of "Fishing and Trapping," "Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying" and

"Forestry," brought up to the above-mentioned quarters by applying the percentage variations in rent since the 1933 Census shown for corresponding houses at both periods in the rent rolls of the house-agents. At the same time, these rent rolls were carefully revised, after personal inspection of all houses included, to ensure a satisfactory "sample" of houses upon which to measure rent variations in future. Thus, the rent levels having been established for the towns in question, the rent rolls ceased to be used for the determination of the average rent from quarter to quarter, and were used only for the purpose of measuring the percentage variations from quarter to quarter by means of corresponding houses in the rolls for the current and the preceding quarter—the percentage variations being applied progressively to the basic averages from the 1933 Census, as explained above. The new standard, so far as the towns in question are concerned, affected the indexes only in respect of the relative levels of rents in the different towns, and in respect of their absolute height.

The "Census" basis not being generally applicable to the circumstances of small provincial towns, on account of the great diversity of average "quality" of houses, the levels, as previously determined from a sample of houses selected by the house agents in accordance with definite standards originally laid down, were continued in the indexes until such time as the rent rolls were completely revised on the basis mentioned above. The revision was completed by June Quarter, 1939, but in the meantime as each town was completed the rent level then reached on the old basis was established as the base to which the percentage variations disclosed by the rent rolls were progressively applied thereafter.

(iii) *Clothing and Miscellaneous*.—The regimen for clothing and miscellaneous household requirements was originally introduced in 1921, and the first revision was made in March Quarter, 1935. Details of the original regimen were not published, but the revised regimen of 1935 appeared in Labour Report No. 26. A second revision took place in September Quarter, 1936, as part of the general revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936. The main features of this revision are referred to in para. 2 below. Some minor alterations have since been made in the regimen.

2. **Revision of 1936**.—The revision of the regimen by the Conference of Statisticians of April, 1936, was of a comprehensive nature. The Resolutions of the Conference are reprinted in Appendix XI. of Labour Report No. 27. This Conference not only recommended extensive revisions of the regimen from which the indexes are compiled, but also considered methods of collection and compilation. As a result of its deliberations, and subsequent discussions by correspondence, many improvements and refinements were introduced.

The changes in the regimen made by this Conference comprised chiefly the elimination or replacement of articles no longer in demand, or which experience had shown to be unsuitable media for the measurement of price variations; the alteration of units of quantity in certain cases to conform with those in most general use; the adjustment of the mass unit allotted to certain articles to bring them into accord with present-day consumption habits; and the re-adjustment of the population and household weights applicable to the several groups and sections of the regimen in accordance with the results of the 1933 Census. Definite grades or qualities were also established for each article in the regimen, to ensure that quotations should be given, as far as possible, for the same article at all times and in



all places, and expert field officers were appointed to collect, personally, prices to the standard qualities laid down. Improved methods of collecting and weighting average house rentals were also adopted (*see* para. I (ii) above).

**3. Method of Effecting Changes.**—Changes of the nature mentioned are commonly made in price indexes without seriously impairing their continuity. In accordance with established principles of procedure in changing the regimen (*see* Labour Report No. 9, Appendix I., Part II., paras. 14 and 18), the general level of the index is taken as determined by the old regimen for the quarter in which the change is made, and the new regimen is used to measure variations in the price level after that date. The linking up of the index-numbers on the old and the new basis is effected by the usual method of equating the respective weighted aggregate costs of the old and the new regimens in the six capital cities.

There are two methods of effecting this, as follows:—Up to June Quarter, 1942, all such changes were made by equating the new aggregate of the section embodying the changes to the former aggregate. This course was adopted when items were added to or omitted from the regimen, and when a change was made in the standard of any item. From September Quarter, 1942, however, all changes of standard were effected by an appropriate adjustment of the “mass unit” or “weight” so as to preserve the percentage weight which the item carried in the aggregate from time to time, and wherever possible the “weight” of any item dropped from the regimen was transferred to an article of a similar nature which would serve as a more appropriate medium for the measurement of the variations of the article dropped than the remaining items of the section, the “mass units” of which under the former procedure in effect were proportionately increased to carry the aggregate of the item dropped, or reduced to admit a new item added. (*See also* para. 3 on pages 15 and 16.)

**4. Continuity of Indexes.**—While the above involves no break of continuity in the index-numbers for the six capital cities as a whole, upon the basis of which all such changes are effected, slight alterations of the relative positions of individual towns are inevitable on account of the alteration of former standards. The effect, however, is more noticeable in the group index-numbers than in those covering a combination of groups, wherein the losses and gains tend to balance out. Thus, in comparing group index-numbers for individual towns in respect of periods including the dates of change referred to in paras. 1 to 3 above, the following considerations should be kept in mind:—

(a) *Food and Groceries.*—These index-numbers are substantially comparable throughout the period up to June Quarter, 1936. From and including September Quarter, 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other, but are not strictly so with those for previous quarters.

(b) *Housing.*—No change was ever made in the method of calculating the rentals of “All Houses”, and consequently these index-numbers were comparable throughout the whole period of their existence.\* In regard to rentals of houses of 4 and 5 rooms, however, the index-numbers for individual towns are comparable with each other up to June Quarter, 1936. In September

\* The tabulation of the “A” Series Index, for which these rents were used, was discontinued after the issue for June Quarter, 1938.

Quarter, 1936, a change was made in the methods of averaging and weighting the data from house-agents, which gave rise to slight disparities not due to rental fluctuations, and rendered the rent figures for individual towns not strictly comparable with those of former periods. The change, however, thereafter made the index-numbers for any one town more comparable with those of other towns. In December Quarter, 1936, the rent tabulations in the two principal towns of each State were placed on an entirely new basis, which rendered them incomparable individually with average rents of previous periods. This change was also introduced with the object of making the index-numbers for the principal towns more comparable *inter se* in any given quarter (*see* para. I (ii) above).

- (c) *Clothing and Miscellaneous*.—The index-numbers for individual towns up to and including 1934 are comparable with those for previous periods. Those for 1935, and the March and June quarters of 1936, are comparable for those periods, but not with the index-numbers of former or subsequent periods. From and including September Quarter, 1936 the index-numbers for individual towns are substantially comparable with each other, both from quarter to quarter and from town to town, but for individual towns they are not strictly continuous with those of previous periods.

**5. The Regimen under War Conditions.**—Between the comprehensive revision of 1936 and the outbreak of war in 1939 changes in conditions did not require any appreciable revision of the regimen or mass units of items therein. The adjustments made in 1936 had brought the basis of the index “up-to-date” in the sense that it conformed reasonably closely to normal pre-war usage. Although the effects of the war produced some variations from normal consumption in 1940 and 1941, it was not until 1942 (as explained in § 2 (5) of this Chapter) that fundamental changes began to occur. As there explained, the years 1942, 1943 and 1944 produced temporary changes of a far-reaching character which, if permanent and stable, must have necessitated fundamental re-adjustments in the regimen and mass units of the index. But the resultant changes in the index would have been so extensive as virtually to create a new index which would not have been continuously comparable with the “C” Series Index as compiled either pre-war or post-war. Consideration of the matter led to the conclusions—

- (i) that it was desirable to continue the “C” Series Index substantially on its pre-war regimen in order to ensure continuity of comparison of price movements on a clearly defined basis;
- (ii) that it was impossible to reconstruct the “C” Series Index to take account of recurrent temporary departures from normal consumption.

**6. The Regimen since 1945.**—The “C” Series Index was reviewed at the Conferences of Commonwealth and State Statisticians in 1949 and 1950. The resolutions of the 1949 Conference are reprinted on page 157 of Labour Report No. 38. Those of the 1950 Conference are reprinted as Section V. of the Appendix to this Report (*see* page 161).

### § 10. Retail Price Indexes and Basic Wage Variations.

Two distinct procedures are adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in fixing and varying basic or living wages as follows :—

- (i) the Court periodically *fixes* the amount of wage in the light of evidence submitted by parties appearing before it. Such evidence usually covers a wide range of facts as to economic conditions ;
- (ii) having determined the amount of basic wage the Court further determines whether or not it shall be subject to automatic adjustment for changes in price level and, if so, by what method such *variation* shall be made. This again is decided in the light of evidence and of representations by the parties concerned.

The "C" Series Index is used by the Court to derive the "Court" series of retail price index-numbers upon which the basic portion\* of the wages prescribed in awards is *varied* automatically for changes in price levels quarterly, half-yearly or yearly. These are commonly referred to as "cost of living" adjustments although in fact they relate only to that part of the *change in cost of living* which is due to variations in prices. The Court itself determines from time to time at public sittings the amount of the basic wage, having regard to evidence submitted in relation to other aspects of "cost of living" and other relevant considerations. In fixing the amount of the basic wage the Court does not have regard to either the regimen used in compiling the retail price index or the cost of such regimen. The regimen of the index would not be suited to such a purpose.

The considerations upon which the basic wage is fixed are set out in successive judgments of the Court and briefly summarized in Chapter III (§ 3) of this Report. On this matter, reference should be made to the Basic Wage Judgments of the Court, particularly those of 1934, 1937, 1941 and 1950†, and to the general statement of principles set out in the judgment on the "Munition Workers' Case" of 1943.‡ Certain State industrial tribunals use the index-numbers directly for automatic or quasi-automatic adjustment of the rates of wages determined by them as tribunals, while some State tribunals have regard to the index-numbers and other factors in considering what "cost of living" variations they should make in rates of wages.

The use of indexes by industrial authorities for purposes of adjusting rates of wages for changes in price level is a practice of long standing, dating in the case of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, for example, back to the year 1913. The tribunals form their own judgment as to the relevance of the indexes to their purposes, and periodically hear the representatives of employers and employees on the issues involved, including questions as to whether the index is satisfactory for the purposes to which it is applied by the tribunal. In such proceedings the Statistician or his officers are called at times as witnesses on questions of fact and technical matters relating to the indexes.

\* The "needs" portion only was adjustable from July, 1937 to December, 1950.

† 33 C.A.R., p. 144; 37 C.A.R., p. 583; 44 C.A.R., p. 41; 68 C.A.R., p. 698.

‡ 50 C.A.R., p. 101.

The automatic adjustments in wages prescribed in awards of the Court on the basis of retail price index-numbers are sometimes referred to as "cost of living" adjustments and the index is popularly referred to as a "cost of living index". This at times creates misconceptions as to the nature of the retail price index since the term "cost of living" connotes not only change in cost of living due to changes in prices, but also changes in cost of living due to changes in standard of living. Beyond that, use of the term "cost of living" index sometimes creates the erroneous impression that the retail price index purports to embrace all that should be included in a desirable standard of living. As pointed out in para. 4, page 3 of this chapter, the "C" Series Index is a retail price index of specific meaning. As there indicated the regimen or list of items, on which the index is based, is representative of a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households. While this statement remains broadly true, it relates (in the circumstances of 1951) more specifically to what may be termed the basic wage portion of wage-earner expenditures. The index has hitherto been used by industrial tribunals to provide automatic adjustments in the basic wage itself and, until December, 1950, to a basic wage which did not vary very much in real terms of purchasing power in relation to "C" Series units. In 1950 and especially in 1951 various factors produced both a steep rise in prices and an increasingly wide dispersion of price movements as affecting consumer expenditures on items within and without the index. There has been arising concurrently a tendency to assume, without inquiry, that the index (constructed primarily to measure the incidence of price changes on expenditures from incomes at or about basic wage level) is equally applicable to such diverse matters as measuring the changing incidence of price variations on secondary or marginal portions of wages, on total wages or on total incomes in groups considerably higher than the basic wage, and even on money settlements in some business transactions. While such assumptions may be reasonably reliable during periods in which all prices tend to move together, they should not be made at any time without due inquiry and particularly not in periods (such as the present) when price movements are very marked and are subject to wide dispersion.

The following is a brief statement of the indexes considered or used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from time to time :—

(i) "*A*" Series Index.—The "*A*" Series Index covers food and groceries and the rent of all houses, with the year 1911 as the base (1,000). This Index was first compiled in 1912, and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911, and quarterly for 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to June Quarter, 1938, after which it was discontinued.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration adopted this Index in 1913 to determine the *relative* basic wage for towns throughout Australia, and to vary what is popularly known as the "Harvester" Basic Wage of 1907—the wage (42s. per week for Melbourne) declared by Mr. Justice Higgins to be sufficient to meet the "normal needs of the average employee, regarded as a human being, living in a civilized community." For this purpose the base index-number (1,000) of the series was selected by the Court as equivalent to a basic wage of 48s. per week. This Index

had very little application after May, 1933, because of the adoption by the Court successively of the "D" Series Index at that date, the "C" Series Index in May, 1934, and the "Court" Series Index in July, 1937.

(ii) "*B*" Series Index.—The "B" Series Index covers food and groceries and rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000), and is actually the food and rent constituent of the "C" Series Index described in (iii) below. This index was first compiled in 1925, and is available for the six capital cities for the years 1907 and 1911, and for the month of November of the years 1914 to 1920, and quarterly thereafter for the 30 important towns of Australia. It was designed to replace the "A" Series Index but was never used in connexion with the adjustment of wages by Industrial Tribunals. This series appears on pages 28 to 31 of this Report.

(iii) "*C*" Series Index.—The "C" Series Index covers food and groceries; rent of 4 and 5-roomed houses; clothing (man, wife and three children); household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting and other miscellaneous items, with the prices ruling in the years 1923–1927 as the base (1,000). The regimen is published in full on pages 11 to 13 of this Report.

This Index was constructed as the result of the recommendations of the **Royal Commission on the Basic Wage of 1920**, and the regimen adopted was substantially that of the "Indicator" Lists of the Commission with periodical adjustments as explained in this chapter. It was first compiled in 1921 and is available for the month of November for the six capital cities for the years 1914 to 1921, quarterly for these cities from June Quarter, 1922, and quarterly for the 30 important towns from March Quarter, 1925 to date.

The Index was not used in connexion with the variation of wages until its partial adoption by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in May, 1933, when the Court introduced the "D" Series Index explained below. In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, the Court adopted as from 1st May, 1934, the "C" Series Index as the sole basis for the adjustment of the wages declared in the judgment, for which purpose the Court equated a "needs" basic wage of 81s. per week to the base index-number ( $1923-27 = 1,000$ ) of the series. In its judgment of 23rd June, 1937, the Court adopted this index as the basis of the "Court" Index (First Series) for the adjustment of the "needs" portion of the Court's new basic wage (*see* (vii) below).

(iv) "*D*" Series Index.—The "D" Series Index is a combination of the "A" and "C" Series Indexes, and was introduced by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the adjustment of wages of those employees who were subject to the full 10 per cent. reduction in real wages determined by the Court in January, 1931. It came into operation from 1st May, 1933.

The Index has for its base the "A" Series Index for each town for December Quarter, 1929, which is varied according to the ratio of change indicated by the "C" Series index-number for the whole of 1929 and the

corresponding "C" Series index-number of the town for the quarter for which the adjustment is to be made. It will thus be seen that, whereas the "D" Series Index for each town from December Quarter, 1929 fluctuated in the same way as the "C" Series Index for the same town, the relationship of different towns was that of the "A" Series Index for December Quarter, 1929, slightly modified by the difference in movement between the "A" Series and the "C" Series Indexes for each town since that quarter.

This Index was superseded as from 1st May, 1934, by the judgment of the Court referred to under "C" Series Index. The index-numbers of this series were published in Appendix VIII. of Labour Reports Nos. 24 to 27.

(v) *Food and Groceries*.—The regimen of food and groceries is a component part of each of the series of retail price index-numbers mentioned above. Details of the regimen will be found on page 11. This index was first compiled in 1912 and is available yearly for the six capital cities from 1901 to 1911 and monthly for the 30 important towns of Australia from 1912 to date. An index computed from the prices of food and groceries only was for a time used for the adjustment of old-age and invalid pensions, and also for the adjustment of the wages of members of the North Australian Workers' Union above the 20th parallel. Both these adjustments were later effected by means of the "C" Series Index, but the provisions for the adjustment of pensions were repealed as from 6th April, 1944.

(vi) *The "200 Towns" Series*.—This series was tabulated for the month of November each year in respect of 200 of the more important towns of the Commonwealth. Up to November, 1936, it covered the cost of food and groceries combined with the rent of 4 and of 5-roomed houses respectively, but thereafter the tabulation was limited to food and groceries only. This table has been used mostly in discussions of suitable relative rates for country towns, but the index-numbers have not been directly employed by industrial tribunals in this connexion. The base of this table is the weighted average cost of food and groceries in the six capital cities in 1923-27 = 1,000. This series has been compiled for the month of November since 1913. It was originally confined to 100 towns, but was increased to 150 in 1915, and 200 in 1923. The tabulation of this index was discontinued after November, 1942. A reference to these index-numbers will be found on page 32.

(vii) *The "Court" Index*.—The "Court" Index was created by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its basic wage judgment of 23rd June, 1937, and operated from 1st July, 1937. Its purpose was to provide a set of index-numbers which would be published by, and under the direct control of, the Court. It was created primarily for the purpose of removing conditions which tended to engender the impression that the Commonwealth Statistician was in some way responsible for the fixation and adjustment of wage-rates. Its introduction has the added advantage of enabling the index-numbers to be specially numbered in the manner most convenient for adjustment purposes, and of enabling the Statistician to change the base of his index-numbers without upsetting the wage and adjustment provisions of the Court's awards. There have been three Series of the "Court" Index and the base of each Series has been

related to the "C" Series Index (Base 1923-27 = 1,000). For each Series this relationship has been so determined that the weekly amount in shillings of basic wage ("needs" basic wage in the case of the First and Second Series) as subsequently adjusted for changes in price level, shall equal the "Court" Series index-number according to which it is adjusted. (A "Court" Series index-number ending in .5 or more is regarded as the next higher number for this purpose).

Particulars of the three "Court" Index Series are as follows :—

- (a) The "Court" Index (First Series) (Base 1923-27 = 81.0). This index operated from 1st July, 1937, and a description of its construction is given on page 36 of Labour Report No. 34.
- (b) The "Court" Index (Second Series) (Base 1923-27 = 87.0). This index operated from 1st December, 1946, and a description of its construction is given on page 38 of Labour Report No. 38. For a table of index-numbers under this Series for 1950 see Section IV. of Appendix to this Report.
- (c) The "Court" Index (Third Series) (Base 1923-27 = 103.0). On 23rd November, 1950, the Court announced that the new basic wage (i.e., the "needs" portion plus a standardized "prosperity" loading plus an additional 20s.), to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period in December, 1950, would be adjustable, as from February, 1951, in accordance with the "Court" Index (Third Series). This "Court" Series is constructed (*see* (vii), page 81) by multiplying the "C" Series index-number (on 1923-27 base) by the factor 0.103. The result to the first decimal place (as it stands) is the corresponding "Court" (Third Series) index-number, which, as explained above, expresses in shillings the amount of basic wage as fixed by the Court for that index-number—with the proviso that any decimal point of .5 or more shall be regarded as the next higher number of shillings in the automatic adjustment scale. Third Series "Court" index-numbers are shown in Section (IV) of the Appendix, and a "Ready Reckoner" for the weekly basic wage equivalents of "Court" (Third Series) and "C" Series index-numbers is shown at the end of the following section (*see* next page).

### § 11. Scales Used for Automatic Wage Adjustment.

The following table shows the automatic scales of quarterly, half-yearly or yearly adjustment adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its announcement of 23rd November, 1950. As indicated in the preceding section, this automatic adjustment scale is applied to an amount of basic wage fixed by the Court after hearing evidence and argument by representatives of employers and employees covering a wide range of relevant factors (primarily relating to "capacity of industry" to pay and general economic conditions). The amount of wage shown constitutes the basic wage payable.



**Automatic Scales for Quarterly, Half-yearly or Yearly Adjustment of Basic Wage.\***

(As adopted by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, 23rd November, 1950 and operative as from February, 1951.)

†Basis—

(a) "C" Series Index.—Index-number 1,000 (Base 1923-27) = 103s. per week (1s. = 9.708738), or £269 per annum (£1 = 3.717472).‡

(b) "Court" Index (Third Series).—"C" Series index-number 1,000 (Base 1923-27) = "Court" Index (Third Series) index-number 103.0. (One "C" Series "point" = 0.103.)

Index-number Divisions.		Wage per Week.	Index-number Divisions.		Wage per Week.
"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Third Series).		"C" Series Index.	"Court" Index (Third Series).	
		£ s. d.			£ s. d.
1500-1509 ..	154.5-155.4	7 15 0	1850-1859 ..	190.5-191.4	9 11 0
1510-1519 ..	155.5-156.4	7 16 0	1860-1868 ..	191.5-192.4	9 12 0
1520-1529 ..	156.5-157.4	7 17 0	1869-1878 ..	192.5-193.4	9 13 0
1530-1538 ..	157.5-158.4	7 18 0	1879-1888 ..	193.5-194.4	9 14 0
1539-1548 ..	158.5-159.4	7 19 0	1889-1898 ..	194.5-195.4	9 15 0
1549-1558 ..	159.5-160.4	8 0 0	1899-1907 ..	195.5-196.4	9 16 0
1559-1567 ..	160.5-161.4	8 1 0	1908-1917 ..	196.5-197.4	9 17 0
1568-1577 ..	161.5-162.4	8 2 0	1918-1927 ..	197.5-198.4	9 18 0
1578-1587 ..	162.5-163.4	8 3 0	1928-1936 ..	198.5-199.4	9 19 0
1588-1597 ..	163.5-164.4	8 4 0	1937-1946 ..	199.5-200.4	10 0 0
1598-1606 ..	164.5-165.4	8 5 0	1947-1956 ..	200.5-201.4	10 1 0
1607-1616 ..	165.5-166.4	8 6 0	1957-1966 ..	201.5-202.4	10 2 0
1617-1626 ..	166.5-167.4	8 7 0	1967-1975 ..	202.6-203.4	10 3 0
1627-1635 ..	167.5-168.4	8 8 0	1976-1985 ..	203.5-204.4	10 4 0
1636-1645 ..	168.5-169.4	8 9 0	1986-1995 ..	204.5-205.4	10 5 0
1646-1655 ..	169.5-170.4	8 10 0	1996-2004 ..	205.5-206.4	10 6 0
1656-1665 ..	170.5-171.4	8 11 0	2005-2014 ..	206.5-207.4	10 7 0
1666-1674 ..	171.5-172.4	8 12 0	2015-2024 ..	207.5-208.4	10 8 0
1675-1684 ..	172.5-173.4	8 13 0	2025-2033 ..	208.5-209.3	10 9 0
1685-1694 ..	173.5-174.4	8 14 0	2034-2043 ..	209.5-210.4	10 10 0
1695-1703 ..	174.5-175.4	8 15 0	2044-2053 ..	210.5-211.4	10 11 0
1704-1713 ..	175.5-176.4	8 16 0	2054-2063 ..	211.5-212.4	10 12 0
1714-1723 ..	176.5-177.4	8 17 0	2064-2072 ..	212.5-213.4	10 13 0
1724-1733 ..	177.5-178.4	8 18 0	2073-2082 ..	213.5-214.4	10 14 0
1734-1742 ..	178.6-179.4	8 19 0	2083-2092 ..	214.5-215.4	10 15 0
1743-1752 ..	179.5-180.4	9 0 0	2093-2101 ..	215.5-216.4	10 16 0
1753-1762 ..	180.5-181.4	9 1 0	2102-2111 ..	216.5-217.4	10 17 0
1763-1771 ..	181.5-182.4	9 2 0	2112-2121 ..	217.5-218.4	10 18 0
1772-1781 ..	182.5-183.4	9 3 0	2122-2131 ..	218.5-219.4	10 19 0
1782-1791 ..	183.5-184.4	9 4 0	2132-2140 ..	219.5-220.4	11 0 0
1792-1800 ..	184.5-185.4	9 5 0	2141-2150 ..	220.5-221.4	11 1 0
1801-1810 ..	185.5-186.4	9 6 0	2151-2160 ..	221.5-222.4	11 2 0
1811-1820 ..	186.5-187.4	9 7 0	2161-2169 ..	222.5-223.4	11 3 0
1821-1830 ..	187.5-188.4	9 8 0	2170-2179 ..	223.5-224.4	11 4 0
1831-1839 ..	188.5-189.4	9 9 0	2180-2189 ..	224.5-225.4	11 5 0
1840-1849 ..	189.5-190.4	9 10 0	2190-2199 ..	225.5-226.4	11 6 0

\* For "Court" (First Series) Equivalents (Base = 81.0) see Labour Report No. 34. p. 38. For "Court" (Second Series) Equivalents (Base = 87.0) see Labour Report, No. 38. p. 40.

†Formulae for Construction of Tables—

(a) "C" Series.—Let N = number of shillings in wage per week. Then  $9.708738 \times (N - .5) + 1$  gives the first, and  $9.708738 \times (N + .5)$  gives the second of the pair of numbers in the index-number division for N shillings. Decimal fractions in result are to be disregarded.

(b) "Court" Series.—Each "C" Series Index point = 0.103, and each of the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "C" Series Index in above table when multiplied by this factor gives to the first decimal place (as it stands) the first of the pair of index-number divisions for the "Court" Index (Third Series)—from which the second of the pair becomes obvious. (NOTE.—All "Court" Series index-numbers must be derived through their corresponding "C" Series index-numbers.)

‡ For general purposes, the Annual Rate (in £'s) is obtainable by multiplying the Weekly Rate (in Shillings) by 2.608333 (i.e.,  $52\frac{1}{2}$  weeks) divided by 20 (shillings),—a decimal point of .5 or more being taken to the next higher £.



Both the amount of wage and the adjustment scale operate only until the Court otherwise determines, and representatives of employers and employees have the right to approach the Court for variation of the wage or for variation of the adjustment scale. As from February, 1951, the whole basic wage is adjustable for wages varied according to the "Court" Index (Third Series). Under the First and Second Series only the "Needs" portion was varied.

## § 12. International Comparisons : Retail Price Index-Numbers.

The following tables give index-numbers of retail prices for various countries. Except where otherwise noted, the average prices for the year 1937 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between the various countries included.

### Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in various Countries.\*

(Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.)

(Base : 1937 = 100.)

	AUSTRALIA.	BELGIUM.	BRAZIL.(a)	CANADA.	CHILE.	DENMARK.	EGYPT.(b)	FINLAND.	INDIA.	IRELAND.
Town or Number of Localities.	30	62	Sao Paulo.	69	Santiago.	Whole.	Cairo.	36	Bombay.	120
1937 .. ..	100	100	..	100	100	100	..	100	100	100
1938 .. ..	103	104	..	101	104	102	..	103	100	102
1939 .. ..	105	104	100	100	106	104	..	105	100	105
1940 .. ..	110	117	105	104	119	130	113	125	106	121
1941 .. ..	115	..	117	110	137	150	138	148	117	133
1942 .. ..	125	..	130	116	173	156	184	174	148	148
1943 .. ..	129	..	150	117	201	158	242	197	218	166
1944 .. ..	129	..	191	117	224	160	279	209	224	174
1945 .. ..	129	..	232	118	244	162	293	292	222	173
1946 .. ..	131	324c	276	122	283	161	287	467	244	171
1947 .. ..	136	340	328	134	378	166	279	606	263	181d
1948 .. ..	148	390	361	153	446	170	281	815	286	186
1949 .. ..	162	378	359	159	529	171	278	830	290	187
1950 .. ..	179	374	380	165	609	181	293	945	295	190
1950—										
March Qtr. ..	171	369	370	160	567	174	284	872	288	188
June " ..	176	366	379	162	586	178	289	921	293	191
Sept. " ..	180	376	384	167	613	179	295	968	303	188
Dec. " ..	188	386	385	169	670	185	306	1,019	296	191

\* The index-numbers in the above table are based on the prices of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items.

(a) Base : 1939 = 100. (b) Base : June–August, 1939 = 100. (c) October–December.  
(d) New interim index linked to the old.

## Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries\*—continued.

(Base: 1937 = 100.)

Town or Number of Localities.	NETHERLANDS. 6	NEW ZEALAND. 4-25	NORWAY. 31	PERU. Lima.	SOUTHERN RHODESIA. <sup>2</sup> 6	SWEDEN. 60	SWITZERLAND. 34	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. 9	UNITED KINGDOM. 24-509	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. 32-51	URUGUAY. Montevideo.
1937 .. ..	100	100	100	100	102	100	100	100	100	100	100
1938 .. ..	101	103	103	101	103	102	100	104	101	98	99
1939 .. ..	102	107	105	100	102	105	101	104	103	97	105
1940 .. ..	117	112	122	107	103	118	110	107	119	98	110
1941 .. ..	134	116	143	116	107	134	127	112	129	102	109
1942 .. ..	143	120	152	131	113	144	141	122	130	114	112
1943 .. ..	149	123 <sup>b</sup>	155	142	119	146	149	129	129	120	118
1944 .. ..	153 <sup>c</sup>	125	157	163	124	145	152	133	130	122	121
1945 .. ..	176 <sup>c</sup>	127	160	182	127	145	153	137	132	125	139
1946 .. ..	192 <sup>c</sup>	128	164	199	131	145	152	139	132	136	153
1947 .. ..	199	132	165	258	135	150	159	145	102 <sup>d</sup>	155	177
1948 .. ..	206	142	164	338	145	157	164	153	108	167	180
1949 .. ..	219	145 <sup>e</sup>	164	388	153	160	162	159	111	166	189
1950 .. ..	239 <sup>f</sup>	153	173 <sup>g</sup>	435	165	162	160 <sup>h</sup>	165	114	167	181
1950— March Qtr. ..	233	146	165	426	162	161	159	161	113	164	180
June .. ..	238	151	171	430	163	161	159	165	114	165	181
Sept. .. ..	240	156	174	429	166	162	160	165	114	169	179
Dec. .. ..	247	159	181	453	167	164	161	169	116	172	184

\* The index-numbers in the above table are based on the prices of food, housing, clothing and miscellaneous items.

(a) Base: August, 1939 = 100. Index-numbers for years 1937-40 include only food, fuel, light and rent. (b) War-time index linked to former series. (c) Average of less than twelve months. (d) July-December. Interim Index. Base: 17th June, 1947 = 100. (e) Consumers' (Retail) Price Index linked to former series. (f) New interim index. (g) New index linked to former index. (h) New index, beginning March, 1950, linked to former series.

## INDEX-NUMBERS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOODS.

Town or Number of Localities.	AUSTRALIA. 30	BRAZIL. <sup>(a)</sup> Sao Paulo.	CANADA. 69	CHILE. San- tiago.	DENMARK. Whole.	EGYPT. <sup>(b)</sup> Cairo.	FINLAND. 36	FRANCE. Paris.	INDIA. Bom- bay.	IRELAND. 120
1937 .. ..	100	..	100	100	100	..	100	100	100	100
1938 .. ..	104	..	101	105	104	..	101	116	99	102
1939 .. ..	109	100	97	103	106	..	105	125	100	104
1940 .. ..	110	107	102	120	129	112	128	149	110	117
1941 .. ..	111	121	112	137	157	141	151	172	123	129
1942 .. ..	121	134	123	179	162	194	177	201	158	143
1943 .. ..	122	153	127	212	161	263	197	259	221	159
1944 .. ..	120	201	127	227	162	312	200	319	231	168
1945 .. ..	121	245	129	242	163	325	312	436	238	169
1946 .. ..	122	312	136	281	163	310	491	746	278	169
1947 .. ..	129	373	155	377	170	298	719	1,207	302	(c)183
1948 .. ..	148	425	189	439	173	299	950	1,923	305	188
1949 .. ..	164	409	197	504	175	303	979	100 <sup>d</sup>	321	188
1950 .. ..	184	438	204	589	204	331	1,124	111	334	188
1950— March Qtr. ..	173	425	195	538	186	318	1,043	109	324	188
June .. ..	179	438	200	547	193	326	1,111	108	330	192
Sept. .. ..	185	446	210	589	206	333	1,170	109	348	185
Dec. .. ..	198	443	212	681	215	342	1,174	117	334	188

(a) Base: 1939 = 100. (b) Base: June-August, 1939 = 100. (c) New interim index linked to the old. (d) New index, base: 1949 = 100.

Index-Numbers of Retail Prices in Various Countries—*continued*.

(Base: 1937 = 100.)

INDEX—NUMBERS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD—*continued*.

	MEXICO.	NETHER- LANDS.	NEW ZEALAND.	NORWAY.	PERU.	SOUTHERN RHODESIA. (a)	SWITZER- LAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.	UNITED KINGDOM.	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.	URUGUAY.
Town or Number of Localities.	Mexi- co City.	6	25	31	Lima.	6	34	9	24-509	32-51	Monte- video.
1937 .. ..	100	100	100	100	100	..	100	100	100	100	100
1938 .. ..	115	103	104	104	98	..	100	105	101	93	96
1939 .. ..	115	104	110	106	92	..	102	104	101	90	102
1940 .. ..	112	122	113	127	101	..	113	107	118	92	107
1941 .. ..	115	147	115	152	115	110	135	115	121	100	107
1942 .. ..	131	160	118	158	129	116	155	127	116	118	111
1943 .. ..	168	162	119	160	143	121	163	138	119	131	118
1944 .. ..	217	167 <sup>b</sup>	121	161	163	124	166	144	121	129	122
1945 .. ..	234	171 <sup>b</sup>	120	163	182	127	166	147	122	132	146
1946 .. ..	303	197 <sup>b</sup>	121	163	196	132	162	151	122	152	163
1947 .. ..	348	215	128	162	271	144	171	159	101 <sup>d</sup>	184	202
1948 .. ..	367	233	145	158	364	163	177	164	108	200	197
1949 .. ..	383	254	149 <sup>c</sup>	156	423	173	176	169	114	192	197
1950 .. ..	398	282 <sup>e</sup>	163	169 <sup>f</sup>	488	198	178 <sup>g</sup>	179	123	194	180
1950—											
March Qtr. ..	387	277	150	155	476	191	172	173	121	186	181
June .. ..	394	284	159	169	481	197	176	181	123	190	180
Sept. .. ..	401	279	169	173	477	201	180	180	122	199	177
Dec. .. ..	409	286	174	181	516	204	182	182	125	202	180

(a) Base: August, 1930 = 100. (b) Average of less than twelve months. (c) Consumers' (Retail) Price Index linked to former series. (d) July-December. Interim index. Base: 17th June, 1947 = 100. (e) New interim index. (f) New index linked to former index. (g) New index, beginning March, 1950, linked to former series.

## CHAPTER II.—WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES.

### § 1. General.

Two indexes of wholesale prices have been compiled by the Bureau. These are—

- (i) The Melbourne Wholesale Price Index ;
- (ii) The Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

Particulars of the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index, which is now obsolescent, are given in § 3 commencing on page 48 below.

After reviewing the regimen and weighting of this index the 1930 Conference of Statisticians resolved that a new index of Wholesale Prices of Basic Materials and Foodstuffs should be compiled. This index extends back to the year 1928 and is compiled monthly. This Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index is a special purpose index and one of a series of Wholesale Price Indexes designed for special purposes.

### § 2. Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

1. **Price Quotations.**—The prices used in the index have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from locally produced building materials and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of variations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets.

Commodities in the index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible and in respect of imported materials as nearly as may be at the point where they first make effective impact on the local price structure. Thus the price of imported goods is not taken at the time of import, but rather on an ex-bond (or into factory) basis.

Broadly, where home-consumption prices exist for local products, they have been used in this index. During the year 1950–51 wool for local manufacture was subsidized. Whilst the home-consumption price for wool was used to calculate the index-numbers shown in the body of the table (see paragraph 4), footnotes to the table show the index calculated on the basis of open market prices for wool (see paragraph 5).

2. **Commodities and Grouping.**—For purposes of this index “basic” materials (as opposed to certain of the Foodstuffs) are commodities in the primary or basic forms in which they first enter into productive processes carried out in Australia. The regimen comprises 80 commodities, divided into seven main groups. Each group is sub-divided into goods which are mainly imported, and goods which are mainly home-produced. A full list of these commodities is set out below, showing the quantity-multipliers (weights) for each commodity, and the percentage of the total aggregate value in 1950 contributed by each commodity and group.

3. **Method of Construction.**—The index is constructed on the simple aggregative fixed-weights formula. The weights (quantity-multipliers) are based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the period 1928–29 to 1934–35 inclusive. Changes in usage, changes of category as between “imported” and “home-produced” as affecting some commodities, and changes in the industrial structure have affected the validity of some of the weights in the index. These and other problems (e.g., dual prices for some commodities) are being examined with a view to revision of the regimen, its grouping and weighting, when conditions are more stable.

## Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

Commodities in Regimen, Units of Measurement, Quantity Multipliers, and Percentage Value-Weight in 1950.

Commodity.	Unit.	Quantity-multiplier. (Weight.)	Per-centage Value-weight 1950.	Commodity.	Unit.	Quantity-multiplier. (Weight.)	Per-centage Value-weight 1950.
<b>Metals and Coal—</b>				<b>Rubber and Hides—</b>			
Principally Im-ported—				Principally Im-ported—			
Aluminium ..	ton	985	0.05	Rubber, crude	lb.	24,214,400	1.17
Principally Home-produced—				Principally Home-produced—			
Iron and steel ..	ton	637,000	3.19	Calf skins ..	lb.	4,455,000	0.06
Briquettes ..	ton	243,000	0.14	Cattle hides ..	lb.	57,246,000	0.48
Copper - wire bars ..	ton	7,000	0.38	Tanning bark ..	ton	23,000	0.14
Coal ..	ton	9,300,000	11.21	<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>1.85</b>
Lead, soft pig ..	ton	10,400	0.13	<b>Building Materials—</b>			
Tin, ingots ..	ton	1,250	0.26	Principally Im-ported—			
Zinc, ingots ..	ton	14,800	0.20	Timber, soft-woods ..	1,000 sup. ft. gallon	346,500	5.00
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>15.56</b>	Turpentine ..	..	458,000	0.07
<b>Oils, Fats and Waxes—</b>				Principally Home-produced—			
Principally Im-ported—				Bricks ..	1,000 ton	372,000	0.82
Coconut oil ..	ton	6,500	0.22	Cement ..	ton	479,000	0.80
Fuel oil ..	ton	170,000	0.70	Drain-pipes ..	foot	7,270,000	0.28
Linseed oil ..	gallon	2,250,000	0.68	Glass, window ..	100 sq. ft.	82,370	0.06
Lubricating oil ..	gallon	3,960,000	0.35	Lime ..	ton	51,144	0.07
Kerosene, power ..	gallon	21,000,000	0.50	Plaster ..	ton	53,000	0.18
Petrol, 1st grade ..	gallon	78,000,000	3.02	Timber, hard-woods ..	100 sup. ft.	2,575,000	1.93
Petrol, 2nd grade ..	gallon	140,000,000	5.43	White lead ..	cwt.	60,000	0.09
Principally Home-produced—				Whiting ..	cwt.	274,000	0.08
Beeswax ..	lb.	169,112	0.01	<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>9.38</b>
Tallow ..	ton.	26,000	0.23	<b>Foodstuffs and Tobacco—</b>			
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>11.14</b>	Principally Im-ported—			
<b>Textiles—</b>				Tapioca ..	cwt.	719,000	0.59
Principally Im-ported—				Cocoa, raw ..	cwt.	99,500	0.47
Hemp ..	ton	5,575	0.45	Coffee ..	lb.	3,469,000	0.23
Kapok ..	lb.	6,160,000	0.39	Tea ..	lb.	46,629,000	2.84
Jute fibre ..	ton	874	0.04	Mustard ..	doz. lb.	47,000	0.02
Phormium tenax ..	ton	2,275	0.02	Herrings ..	doz. lb.	276,000	0.08
Silk, raw ..	lb.	455,900	0.20	Salmon ..	doz. lb.	1,048,000	0.71
Principally Home-produced—				Sild ..	doz.	807,300	0.16
Cotton, raw ..	lb.	15,900,000	0.61	<b>Tobacco, leaf ..</b>	<b>4-oz. tins lb.</b>	<b>17,451,000</b>	<b>7.21</b>
Wool, greasy ..	lb.	50,200,000	4.50	Principally Home-produced—			
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>6.21</b>	Barley ..	bushel	4,940,000	0.50
<b>Chemicals—</b>				Maize ..	bushel	315,000	0.05
Principally Im-ported—				Oats ..	bushel	14,970,000	1.43
Ammonium sulphate ..	ton	23,830	0.16	Rice ..	cwt.	323,200	0.19
Potash, muriate ..	ton	4,055	0.04	Wheat ..	bushel	39,900,000	3.75
Potash, sulphate ..	ton	2,025	0.02	Onions ..	ton	41,000	0.25
Soda ash ..	ton	21,400	0.13	Peas ..	bushel	644,000	0.18
Soda, nitrate ..	ton	1,100	0.01	Potatoes ..	ton	348,000	2.28
Soda, nitrate ..	ton	3,600	0.03	Sugar ..	ton	336,000	3.87
Chilean Sulphur ..	ton	95,500	0.79	Beef ..	100 lb.	7,004,750	8.88
Principally Home-produced—				Lamb ..	lb.	83,119,000	1.54
Arsenic ..	ton	1,531	0.03	Mutton ..	lb.	436,414,000	4.65
Blood and bone ..	ton	34,431	0.11	Pork ..	lb.	47,562,000	1.24
Methylated spirits ..	gallon	2,374,000	0.09	Butter fat ..	lb.	194,500,000	5.28
Soda crystals ..	ton	4,986	0.02	Lard ..	lb.	1,427,000	0.02
Superphosphate ..	ton	704,144	1.65	Milk ..	gallon	159,900,000	4.70
Sulphuric acid ..	ton	226,450	0.87	Currants ..	lb.	9,900,000	0.14
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>3.95</b>	Sultanas ..	lb.	18,000,000	0.28
				Grapes ..	ton	94,000	0.37
				<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>51.91</b>
				<b>All Groups—</b>			
				Principally Imported ..	..	..	31.78
				Principally Home-produced ..	..	..	68.22
				<b>Total ..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>100.00</b>

4. **Index Numbers.**—Index-numbers for each group of commodities and for all groups combined for the index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table. Current index-numbers, on the base: Average of three years ended June, 1939 = 100, are published in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index-Numbers 1928 to December, 1950.

(Base of each Group : Year 1928 = 100.)

Period.	Basic Materials.							Food-stuffs and Tobacco.	Basic Materials and Foodstuffs.		
	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Total.		Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928 .. ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1929 .. ..	100	102	83	98	77	98	98	107	101	103	103
1930 .. ..	95	108	61	95	55	100	93	95	105	92	95
1931 .. ..	89	109	57	98	58	101	92	81	111	79	87
1932 .. ..	83	107	54	98	53	98	88	79	108	76	84
1933 .. ..	82	88	62	95	56	100	83	78	101	75	81
1934 .. ..	79	82	66	89	60	98	80	81	99	75	81
1935 .. ..	74	88	62	82	59	97	79	85	103	76	83
1936 .. ..	72	91	76	82	72	99	82	91	105	81	87
1937 .. ..	79	95	87	82	89	110	91	93	113	84	91
1938 .. ..	80	95	61	83	66	104	88	96	109	85	91
1939 .. ..	81	97	65	84	76	105	90	95	111	86	92
1940 .. ..	84	123	78	97	93	127	104	100	134	90	101
1941 .. ..	88	134	82	106	98	137	112	104	156	91	107
1942 .. ..	97	151	93	116	104	154	125	119	180	101	120
1943 .. ..	103	160	110	118	106	181	135	121	199	103	126
1944 .. ..	103	160	108	118	106	183	135	122	200	104	127
1945 .. ..	103	153	108	117	106	184	133	126	198	106	128
1946 .. ..	102	142	119	116	104	187	131	128	194	107	128
1947 .. ..	107	142	165	116	94	194	137	137	202	114	135
1948 .. ..	129	159	234	127	100	204	157	156	217	135	155
1949 .. ..	160	166	254	138	96	213	175	175	225	156	173
1950 .. ..	179	179	(a)382	179	155	258	(a)208	202	263	(a)183	(a) 203
1950—											
January ..	172	178	354	164	110	253	199	183	255	167	189
February ..	172	179	352	164	110	253	199	189	260	170	192
March ..	172	179	345	165	114	255	199	189	258	170	192
April ..	172	179	358	165	117	256	200	207	259	183	202
May ..	172	179	384	165	127	256	203	203	258	182	201
June ..	173	179	377	165	138	257	203	206	261	184	203
July ..	175	179	381	190	134	257	206	203	259	185	203
			(a)				(a)			(a)	(a)
August ..	176	179	401	191	145	257	209	208	263	188	207
September ..	179	179	390	194	167	257	211	208	266	189	207
October ..	187	179	390	195	208	258	216	209	271	191	211
November ..	194	179	322	195	231	266	223	213	274	197	216
December ..	201	179	428	197	255	267	228	209	279	195	216

(a) These index-numbers are computed using the price of raw wool for local manufacture. For computation using the auction room price of wool see paragraph 5.

5. **Effect of Wool Bounty.**—Legislation which became effective on 14th December, 1950, had the effect of reducing (by bounty) the price paid for raw wool for local manufacture in Australia below the open market (auction room) price. Such reductions were virtually retrospective to August, 1950, and continued until 30th June, 1951. The effective prices paid for raw wool for local manufacture (i.e., auction room price less bounty) have been used in calculating the index-numbers shown in the table above. The following table shows these same indexes calculated on the auction room prices for wool. Only the four columns marked (a) in the table above are affected, and only these are shown below.

Period.			Textiles.	Total Basic Materials.	Goods Principally Home-Produced.	Total All Groups.
1950—						
August ..	..	..	529	218	194	211
September ..	..	..	540	221	195	212
October ..	..	..	541	227	198	216
November ..	..	..	572	234	203	221
December ..	..	..	578	239	202	221

### § 3. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index.

1. **General.**—An index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912. It relates chiefly to basic materials and foods weighted in accordance with consumption in the years immediately preceding that date. Neither the component items of the regimen, nor the weighting have been varied. Consequently, the index is outmoded for current use and is a measure of variations in wholesale prices based on the weighting originally determined. It has some historic significance as a measure of changes in the prices of its component items combined in the proportions in which they were in common use about the year 1910. It is now published only on an annual basis and is mainly used as an approximate indication of long term trends since the year 1861, for which it was first compiled. A description of the index and a list of the commodities included in it were published on pages 43 to 45 of Labour Report No. 38 for 1949.

2. **Index-Numbers.**—1861 to 1950 (1911 base)—Index-numbers for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups combined, are shown in the following table :—

**Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers, 1861 to 1950.**  
(Base of each Group: Year 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	I. Metals and Coal.	II. Wool, Cotton, Leather, &c.	III. Agricultural Produce, &c.	IV. Dairy Produce.	V. Groceries.	VI. Meat.	VII. Building Materials.	VIII. Chemicals.	All Groups.
1861 ..	1,438	1,381	1,583	1,008	1,963	..	1,070	2,030	1,538
1871 ..	1,096	1,257	1,236	864	1,586	..	1,044	1,409	1,229
1881 ..	1,178	1,115	1,012	935	1,421	..	1,091	1,587	1,121
1891 ..	895	847	1,024	995	1,032	888	780	1,194	945
1901 ..	1,061	774	928	1,029	1,048	1,345	841	917	974
1902 ..	1,007	756	1,192	1,215	945	1,447	837	881	1,051
1903 ..	923	834	1,209	1,059	936	1,443	875	921	1,049
1904 ..	821	885	754	876	916	1,427	845	875	890
1905 ..	772	850	894	980	942	1,209	809	859	910
1906 ..	882	978	916	972	923	1,110	896	864	948
1907 ..	1,037	1,017	973	1,020	948	1,294	968	961	1,021
1908 ..	1,033	901	1,312	1,198	968	1,335	935	891	1,115
1909 ..	1,014	907	1,000	1,119	978	1,088	911	815	993
1910 ..	1,004	1,052	969	1,000	999	1,008	996	808	1,003
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1912 ..	1,021	991	1,370	1,206	1,052	1,357	1,057	978	1,170
1913 ..	1,046	1,070	1,097	1,054	1,024	1,252	1,128	995	1,188
1914 ..	1,099	1,032	1,207	1,137	1,021	1,507	1,081	1,253	1,149
1915 ..	1,284	1,017	2,162	1,530	1,133	2,435	1,275	1,528	1,604
1916 ..	1,695	1,423	1,208	1,485	1,324	2,515	1,491	1,760	1,504
1917 ..	2,129	2,008	1,157	1,423	1,343	2,403	1,884	2,171	1,862
1918 ..	2,416	2,360	1,444	1,454	1,422	2,385	2,686	3,225	1,934
1919 ..	2,121	2,303	1,987	1,651	1,514	2,342	2,852	2,896	2,058
1920 ..	2,302	2,625	2,460	2,213	1,920	3,279	3,226	2,834	2,283
1921 ..	2,173	1,361	1,767	2,000	1,977	2,158	2,733	2,303	1,903
1922 ..	1,941	1,681	1,628	1,648	1,869	1,787	2,003	1,965	1,758
1923 ..	1,826	2,148	1,778	1,840	1,746	2,579	2,024	1,933	1,944
1924 ..	1,835	2,418	1,647	1,655	1,721	2,223	1,814	1,806	1,885
1925 ..	1,851	1,966	1,796	1,636	1,723	2,212	1,711	1,790	1,844
1926 ..	1,938	1,582	2,001	1,784	1,730	1,931	1,664	1,816	1,832
1927 ..	1,962	1,650	1,826	1,823	1,724	2,111	1,623	1,866	1,817
1928 ..	1,912	1,781	1,726	1,751	1,707	2,013	1,744	1,913	1,792
1929 ..	1,912	1,555	1,793	1,854	1,689	2,245	1,755	1,943	1,803
1930 ..	1,867	1,127	1,484	1,627	1,666	2,024	1,875	1,982	1,596
1931 ..	1,826	1,040	1,121	1,398	1,794	1,512	2,025	1,166	1,429
1932 ..	1,736	998	1,230	1,304	1,766	1,351	2,043	2,127	1,411
1933 ..	1,713	1,118	1,175	1,194	1,714	1,485	2,061	2,105	1,409
1934 ..	1,660	1,261	1,288	1,274	1,735	1,540	2,015	2,017	1,471
1935 ..	1,602	1,217	1,344	1,325	1,729	1,508	1,964	1,996	1,469
1936 ..	1,566	1,330	1,480	1,351	1,731	1,684	1,969	1,997	1,543
1937 ..	1,772	1,406	1,604	1,451	1,750	1,678	2,430	2,006	1,856
1938 ..	1,746	1,051	1,789	1,549	1,747	1,871	2,238	2,050	1,662
1939 ..	1,758	1,101	1,820	1,557	1,752	1,710	2,220	2,075	1,665
1940 ..	1,854	1,361	1,567	1,567	1,784	1,882	2,800	2,208	1,713
1941 ..	1,960	1,402	1,721	1,554	1,883	1,776	3,138	2,527	1,796
1942 ..	2,146	1,507	1,900	1,665	1,938	2,312	3,409	2,432	1,977
1943 ..	2,272	1,945	1,964	1,716	1,939	2,366	3,764	2,442	2,117
1944 ..	2,278	1,967	2,052	1,721	1,949	2,470	3,768	2,442	2,159
1945 ..	2,270	1,960	2,259	1,726	1,967	2,560	3,770	2,527	2,228
1946 ..	2,262	2,062	1,951	1,722	1,977	2,589	3,772	2,614	2,162
1947 ..	2,390	2,690	2,019	1,763	2,174	2,748	3,800	2,843	2,360
1948 ..	2,829	3,619	2,383	2,104	2,435	2,976	4,631	3,180	2,824
1949 ..	3,502	3,966	2,876	2,309	2,538	3,356	4,611	3,221	3,191
1950 ..	3,902	(a) 5,464	3,155	2,459	2,829	4,616	(b) 5,567	3,263	(c) 3,816

NOTE.—The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally.

(a) Computed using, for wool, the effective home-consumption price. This group index-number computed using the auction room price for wool is 6,079. (See paragraph 5 on page 48.) (b) The regimen and weighting of the original Building Materials group of this index have become unreal. The movement shown here for this group between 1949 and 1950 has been calculated in accordance with the movement occurring in the Building Materials group of the Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Index. (c) Computed using, for wool, the effective home-consumption price. The all groups index-number computed using the auction room price for wool is 3,921.



#### § 4. International Comparisons : Wholesale Price Index-Numbers.

The following table gives index-numbers of wholesale prices for the period 1937 to December, 1950, for Australia and other countries. Except where otherwise noted, the average prices in each country for the year 1937 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between the various countries included.

##### Index-Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Various Countries.

(Source : *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations.)

(Base : 1937 = 100.)

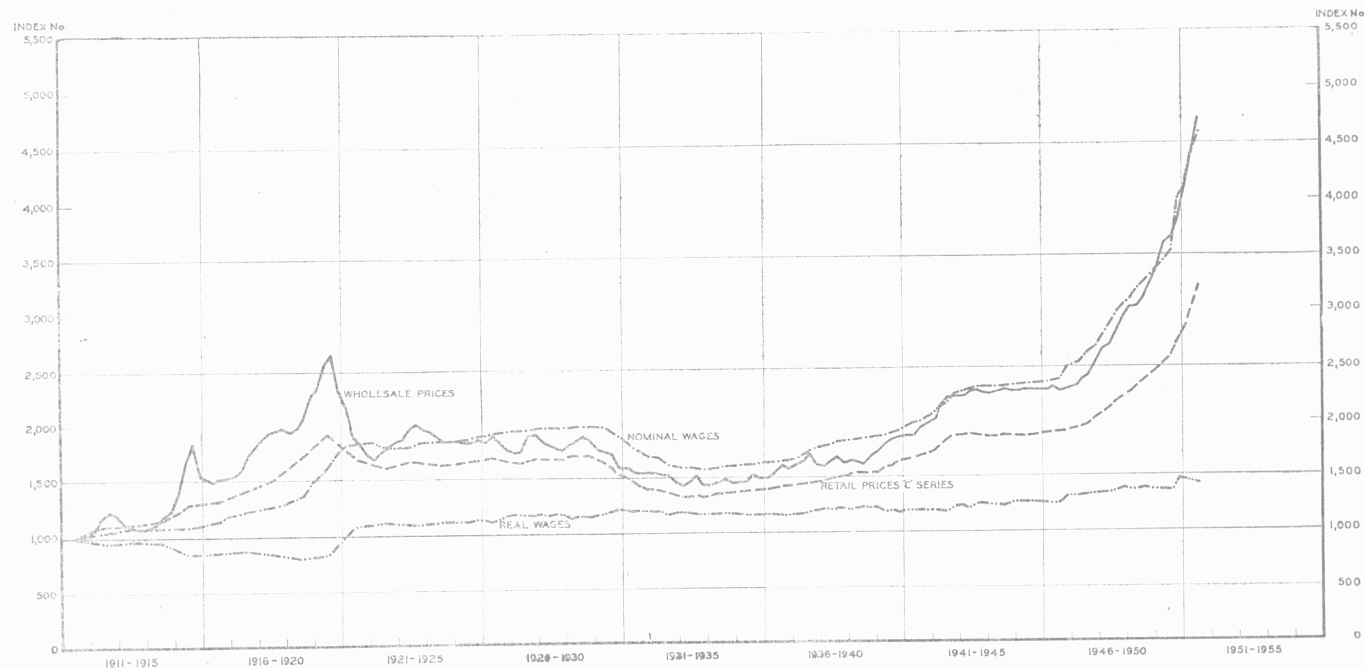
Period.	AUSTRALIA.	BRAZIL.	CANADA.	CHILE.	DENMARK.	EGYPT.	FINLAND.	FRANCE.(a)	INDIA.	IRELAND.(b)
1937 .. ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	..	100	..
1938 .. ..	100	93	95	95	94	99	93	100	90	..
1939 .. ..	100	94	92	93	99	100	98	105	100	105
1940 .. ..	110	100	100	102	145	124	132	139	112	132
1941 .. ..	117	122	108	119	171	156	161	171	123	148
1942 .. ..	132	146	114	162	179	200	199	201	151	170
1943 .. ..	138	167	119	179	180	254	226	234	206	189
1944 .. ..	139	180	121	184	182	300	250	265	228	198
1945 .. ..	140	208	123	196	179	318	359	375	231	198
1946 .. ..	141	248	129	227	176	308	562	648	252	198
1947 .. ..	150	299 <sup>c</sup>	151	292	195	292	676	989	297 <sup>d</sup>	219
1948 .. ..	170	347	179	335 <sup>e</sup>	213	316	893	1,712	367	232
1949 .. ..	189	384	184	383	218	298	900	1,917	381	231
1950 .. ..	222 <sup>f</sup>	441	196	449	246	330	1,037	108 <sup>f</sup>	401	244
1950—										
March Qtr. ..	209	416	186	415	235	312	945	104	390	238
June .. ..	221	398	191	432	238	323	995	104	393	240
Sept. .. ..	225 <sup>e</sup>	452	202	452	245	331	1,062	108	409	244
Dec. .. ..	234 <sup>e</sup>	499	206	497	266	355	1,147	117	412	256

Period.	MEXICO (MEXICO CITY). (g)	NETHER- LANDS.	NEW ZEALAND.	NORWAY.	PERU (LIMA).	SWEDEN.	SWITZER- LAND.	UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.	UNITED KINGDOM.		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.
									Board of Trade.	Econo- mist.	
1937 .. ..	..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1938 .. ..	..	94	101	98	101	97	96	103	93	87	91
1939 .. ..	100	97	105	100	105	101	100	101	95	91	89
1940 .. ..	102	120	117	131	119	128	129	112	126	117	91
1941 .. ..	109	138	128	160	140	151	165	123	140	128	101
1942 .. ..	121	145	139	170	175	166	188	138	147	135	114
1943 .. ..	146	148	148	172	201	172	196	150	150	138	119
1944 .. ..	178	151	152	174	208	172	200	155	153	142	121
1945 .. ..	199	167	155	174	218	170	198	158	155	145	123
1946 .. ..	229	232	155	166	234	163	193	161	161	154	140
1947 .. ..	242	250	161	172	315	175	201	169	176	178	176
1948 .. ..	260	260 <sup>h</sup>	180	178	306	188	200	181	202	197	191
1949 .. ..	285	271	179	181	553	189	190	191	212	205	180
1950 .. ..	311	304	194	206	643	199	196	204	242	234	187
1950—											
March Qtr. ..	294	294	183	184	614	193	189	196	225	217	177
June .. ..	306	296	193	200	619	195	189	202	234	227	180
Sept. .. ..	313	305	200	212	648	198	197	207	244	238	193
Dec. .. ..	331	325	203	225	691	213	208	212	264	257	199

(a) Base : 1938 = 100. (b) Base : October, 1938 = 100. (c) New series linked to old.  
 (d) New series, base : September, 1938, to August, 1939 = 100. (e) Computed using for raw wool,  
 the price for local manufacture. Computed on the auction room price of raw wool, these index-numbers  
 are—Year 1950, 224; September Quarter, 1950, 228; December Quarter, 1950, 240. (f) New  
 series, base : 1949 = 100. (g) Base : 1939 = 100. (h) New interim series linked to old.

# Wholesale and Retail Prices; Nominal, and Effective or Real Wages—Index-Numbers, Australia, 1911 to 1951.

(Base of each Series : Year 1911 = 1,000.)



EXPLANATION.—The index-numbers in the graph above are for the Six Capital Cities as a whole, with the exception of those for Wholesale Prices up to the fourth quarter of 1927, which are for Melbourne. The wholesale prices graph shows the trend of prices according to the "old" Melbourne Index up to the fourth quarter of 1927, but thereafter, this index having been "spliced" with the Basic Materials and Foodstuffs Index, the curve line moves in accordance with the variations of the latter. For the period 1911-1914 the "C" Series index-numbers are taken back from the true base (November, 1914 = 1,000) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses). Real wages are computed on the basis of the "C" Series Retail Price Index.

## CHAPTER III.—WAGES AND HOURS.

## § 1. Arbitration and Wages Board Acts and Associated Legislation.

1. **General.**—Particulars regarding the operation of Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages, hours and conditions of labour were first compiled for the year 1913, and reviews to the end of each annual period appear in previous issues of the Labour Report.

2. **Laws Regulating Industrial Matters.**—The Laws in force regulating rates of wage, hours of labour, and working conditions generally in both Commonwealth and State jurisdictions at the end of 1950 are listed below :—

## COMMONWEALTH.

Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1950.  
 Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act 1946-1950.  
 Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920-1947.  
 Coal Industry Act 1946.  
 Stevedoring Industry Act 1949.

## STATES.

New South Wales	..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1940-1950. Coal Industry Act 1946.
Victoria	..	Factories and Shops Act 1928-1950.
Queensland	..	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932-1948.
South Australia	..	The Industrial Code 1920-1950.
Western Australia	..	Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1950.
Tasmania	..	Wages Board Act 1920-1950.

3. **Methods of Administration.**—\*(i) COMMONWEALTH—(a) *Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioners.*—The authority for the prevention and settlement of interstate industrial disputes is vested in the Court (consisting of a Chief Judge and such other judges as are appointed) and Conciliation Commissioners (undefined as regards number).

The Act provides that where a State award or determination is inconsistent with an award issued by the Commonwealth Authority, the latter shall prevail, and the Commonwealth Court can also restrain a State Authority from proceeding in a matter already covered, or being dealt with, by the Commonwealth Authority.

During the 1939-45 War, the powers of the Court were considerably enlarged under National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations (Statutory Rules No. 290 of 1940 and subsequent amendments) to secure the prompt settlement of industrial disputes occurring or likely to occur, and such regulations were to be construed as if their provisions were incorporated in the Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These regulations were continued in force under the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act 1946-1950.

The allocation of the respective powers and functions of the Court and the Conciliation Commissioners is defined by Statute. The Court alone has power to make an order or award (a) altering the standard hours of work in industry; (b) altering the basic wage† for adult males or the principles upon which it is computed; (c) altering the period which shall be granted as annual leave with pay; or (d) determining or altering the basic wage for adult females or the principles upon which it is computed.

\* This section describes the position as at the end of 1950.

† See § 4 of this Chapter.

Subject to this, however, the Commissioners have been given wide powers, without technical and artificial hindrances, to go to the cause of impending industrial trouble in the particular industries to which they have been assigned and to endeavour to remove the cause of the trouble by conciliating the disputants. If this fails, the Conciliation Commissioner should then, but not until then, with no further formalities, act in an arbitral capacity to prevent or settle the dispute by making an award or order. It is also provided that no award or order made by him (within his jurisdiction) may be challenged, appealed against, reviewed, quashed or called in question, or be subject to prohibition, mandamus or injunction, in any Court on any account whatever.

(b) *Coal Industry Tribunal and Central Reference Board.*—The Coal Industry Tribunal was established under the Coal Industry Act No. 40 of 1946 and the New South Wales Coal Industry Act No. 44 of 1946 to consider and determine interstate disputes and, in respect of New South Wales only, intra-State disputes between the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation and employers in the coal-mining industry. The Central Industrial Authority established under the Coal Production (War-time) Act of 1944 was superseded but the awards, orders, and determinations of the Central Industrial Authority were continued in force until rescinded or varied by the Coal Industry Tribunal. The Tribunal consists of one person who may appoint two assessors nominated by the parties to advise him in matters relating to any dispute. Subsidiary authorities, in New South Wales only, are the Local Coal Authorities and the Mine Conciliation Committees.

The Central Reference Board with its subsidiary Local Reference Boards established by the National Security (Coal Mining Industry) Regulations and continued in force by the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Acts 1946-1950 deals with industrial matters and has powers for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes affecting unions other than the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation in the coal-mining industry. The jurisdiction of the Local Reference Boards in States other than New South Wales extends to intra-state disputes affecting all unions in the coal-mining industry including the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation. The person constituting the Coal Industry Tribunal is at present chairman of the Central Reference Board.

(c) *Australian Stevedoring Industry Board.*—The Australian Stevedoring Industry Board (established under the Stevedoring Industry Act No. 39 of 1949) replaced the Stevedoring Industry Commission set up in 1947 in continuation of the war-time authorities set up by the National Security (Stevedoring) Regulations of 1942, and the National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations of 1944.

The functions of the Board are the regulation and control of the performance of stevedoring operations, the development of port facilities, the provision of labour for stevedoring operations, the payment of attendance money, the establishment of employment bureaux and the provision of medical facilities and amenities for waterside workers. The Board is responsible for registration of employers and waterside workers and may delegate any of its powers to Waterside Employment Committees.

The arbitral jurisdiction formerly exercised by the Stevedoring Industry Commission to prevent and settle industrial disputes and regulate industrial matters in the industry is now vested in the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and is exercisable by a single Judge, who may refer questions of law for the opinion of the Full Court.

(d) *Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator*.—Wages, hours of labour and working conditions in the Commonwealth Public Service are regulated by the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator, under powers conferred by the Arbitration (Public Service) Act 1920-1947. The system of arbitration commenced to operate in 1912, cases being heard by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, as part of the ordinary work of that Court. From 1920, however, the control was transferred to the Arbitrator, who is appointed by the Government for a term of seven years, and who need not necessarily have legal qualifications. No appeal lies against a determination of the Arbitrator, but Parliament may exercise a right of veto when the instrument is brought before it for ratification.

(e) *Australian Capital Territory Industrial Board*.—The regulation of industrial matters in the Australian Capital Territory under a local Industrial Board commenced in the year 1922. An amending Ordinance gazetted on 19th May, 1949, however, abolished the Board and transferred its functions to authorities established by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. A separate Registry of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was established in Canberra. Industrial matters formerly dealt with by the Industrial Board are now determined by either the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or by the Conciliation Commissioner assigned to the Australian Capital Territory. It was provided, however, that all determinations and orders made by the Industrial Board and all industrial agreements filed with the Board prior to the amendment of the Ordinance, and in force at the time, continue to operate, but subject to any order, award or determination made after that date under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act or the Arbitration (Public Service) Act.

Details of the provisions relating to the Board during its period of jurisdiction may be found in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 37 (see No. 36, p. 51).

(ii) STATES—(a) *New South Wales*.—The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales consisting of a President and five other Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioners, the Apprenticeship Commissioner, Conciliation Committees and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of a Conciliation Commissioner as chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Special Commissioners with conciliatory powers only may be appointed. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

(b) *Victoria*.—The authorities are separate Wages Boards for the industries covered, each consisting of a chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees, and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represents the first instance in Australia of legal regulation in this sphere.

(c) *Queensland*.—The authority is the Industrial Court, consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and not more than four members appointed by the Governor in Council. Legal control was first instituted in 1907 with the passing of the Wages Board Act.

(d) *South Australia*.—The principal tribunal is called the Industrial Court; there are also Industrial Boards consisting of a chairman and equal representatives of employers and employees for the various industries, and a Board of Industry. The Court is composed of the President (a person eligible for appointment as a Judge of the Supreme Court) who may be joined by two assessors who must be employed in the industry concerned. Deputy Presidents may also be appointed. The "Living Wage" is declared by the Board of Industry, composed of the President or Deputy President of the Industrial Court and four Commissioners. Legal control was first instituted in 1900.

(e) *Western Australia*.—The system of control comprises an Arbitration Court, Industrial Boards, Conciliation Committees and a Conciliation Commissioner. Employers and employees are equally represented on both Boards and Committees. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two members. Commissioners may also be appointed by the Minister for the settlement of particular disputes. Legal control dates back to 1900.

(f) *Tasmania*.—The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman, appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and workers, appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

**4. Awards, Determinations, and Agreements in Force.**—Considerable extension of the principle of the fixation of legal minimum and marginal rates of wages and of working conditions has taken place since 1913 when the tabulation of such statistics was first undertaken by the Bureau, and until 1939 figures showing approximately the magnitude of these operations were published in this Report. Since that year their publication has ceased owing to great difficulties in obtaining precise data for reasons explained in part in the following paragraph.

With reference to the number of industrial awards and registered industrial agreements in force at the end of any period, awards and determinations made by both State and Commonwealth tribunals generally continue in force after the term of operation mentioned therein has expired, until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent order or award. Clause 48 (2) of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that, after the expiration of the period specified, the award shall, unless the Court otherwise orders, continue in force until a new award has been made; provided that, where in pursuance of this sub-section an award has continued in force after the expiration of the period specified in the award, any award made by the Court for the settlement of a new industrial dispute between the parties may, if the Court so orders, be made retrospective to a date not earlier than the date upon which the Court first had cognizance of that dispute. In the Industrial Code of South Australia, Clause 47 (2), and in legislation for other States, similar provisions are in force. All industrial agreements continue in force after the expiration of the term mentioned until rescinded or superseded by a subsequent agreement or order. The Tasmanian Wages Board Act, 1934 repealed Part IV. of the Principal Act providing for industrial agreements and all such agreements ceased to operate from the commencement of the Act unless an agreement existed in

a trade to which no determination of a Board was applicable, in which case the agreement remained in force until its expiry or until a determination was made.

**5. New Legislation and Special Reports.**—Information concerning the main provisions of the various Industrial Acts in force throughout Australia was given in earlier Reports, and brief reviews are furnished each year of the more important new industrial legislation, as well as details of noteworthy pronouncements or procedure by industrial tribunals, and any special application or conditions of the terms of awards or determinations. The period January to December, 1950, is covered by this Report.

(i) *Commonwealth.*—The Conciliation and Arbitration Act (No. 20 of 1950) amended the Principal Act to “enable the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be exercised, in certain circumstances, by two Judges”. The purpose of this amendment was to permit the finalization of the 1949–50 Basic Wage case (see page 81) notwithstanding the absence, through illness, of the Chief Judge.

(ii) *New South Wales.*—Declarations of the Basic Wage made by the Industrial Commission will be found on page 97. The Industrial Arbitration (Basic Wage) Amendment Act 1950, assented to on 23rd November, 1950, empowered the Industrial Commission to vary the terms of awards and industrial agreements in order to give effect to the alteration of the basic wage made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its judgment of 12th October, 1950.

(iii) *Victoria.*—The Factories and Shops (Amendment) Act (No. 5469 of 1950) removed limitations on the setting up of Wages Boards for rural industry throughout the State.

(iv) *Queensland.*—On page 100 will be found particulars of variations in the basic wage determined by the Industrial Court.

No important legislation on industrial matters was passed during the year 1950.

(v) *South Australia.*—Particulars of variations in the “Living Wage” determined by the Board of Industry will be found on page 102.

The Industrial Code Amendment Act (No. 20 of 1950) made provision, *inter alia*, for the alteration of the male and the female “living wage” to deal with the situation created by the declaration of a new Commonwealth Basic Wage.

(vi) *Western Australia.*—Declarations of the basic wage made by the Industrial Court are referred to on page 104.

The Industrial Arbitration Act Amendment Act No. 2 (No. 20 of 1950) empowered the Arbitration Court to determine and declare a basic wage based not only on the needs of an average worker as hitherto, but also on the economic capacity of industry and any other matters the Court may deem relevant.

In place of the statutory provision for the declaration of a basic wage before June each year, the Act substituted discretionary authority to declare a new basic wage at any time but not more often than once a year.



(vii) *Tasmania*.—The Wages Board Act (No. 8 of 1950) varied the powers of the Wages Boards with respect to the provision of paid annual leave and extended the Wages Board system to cover persons engaged in rural industries.

Provision was also inserted in the Principal Act for the holding of compulsory conferences to prevent or settle industrial disputes.

(viii) *Australian Capital Territory*.—No important legislation on industrial matters was passed during 1950.

## § 2. Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour.

1. **General**.—The collection of data respecting the nominal rates of wage payable in different callings and in occupations in various industries carried on in each State was first undertaken by this Bureau in the early part of the year 1913. Owing to the difficulty of ascertaining reliable particulars of the numbers of apprentices, improvers and other juvenile workers to whom progressive rates of wage fixed according to increasing age or experience were payable from year to year, the inquiry was confined to the rates of wage payable to adult workers only, and was further limited generally to those industries in operation within the metropolitan area of each State. In order to make the inquiry comprehensive, however, certain industries were included which were not carried on in the capital cities, e.g., mining, shipping, agriculture, and pastoral. The particulars acquired were obtained primarily from awards, determinations and industrial agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and related to the minimum wage prescribed. In cases where no award, determination or agreement was in force, the ruling union or predominant rate of wage was ascertained from employers and secretaries of trade unions. For convenience of comparison weekly rates of wage were adopted. In many instances, however, the wages were based on daily or hourly rates, since in many industries and occupations in which employment is casual or intermittent wages are so fixed; hence the average weekly earnings in such occupations may fall short of the computed weekly rates. The information thus obtained referred to the weekly rate of wage in upwards of 400 specific occupations. Rates of wage were of course not available for each of these occupations in every State but the aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 1,569 male occupations or callings. These particulars furnished the necessary data for the computation of average rates of wage in various industrial groups,\* and in each State and Australia as a whole. The average rate of wage for each industrial group in each State was computed by taking the arithmetical average† of the rates of wage payable for all classified occupations within that group. A more detailed system of weighting could not be applied owing to the difficulty in the past of obtaining satisfactory data as to the number of persons engaged in each of the occupations for which rates of wage had been obtained. Though a considerable amount of information as to the number of persons engaged in different industries and occupations was available from subsequent Census results, it was found impracticable to bring the classification of these results into line with the detailed classification of occupations in the various industries as set out in the awards and determinations. For final results for each State and for each industrial group throughout the States, however, a careful system of

\* The adopted classification of industries is shown on page iii.

† The sum of the weekly rates of wage divided by the number of occupations included.



weighting according to industrial groups was adopted. For example, in computing the result for any State in any period, the computed average wage in each industrial group was multiplied by a number (weight) representing the relative number of all male workers engaged in that group of industries in the particular State. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, represented the average wage for that State for the particular period. The weights used for each industrial group in the computations of the average wage for male and female occupations have been published in issues of the Labour Report prior to No. 20 of 1929.

The results thus ascertained for the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 2, pp. 28-43. In the early part of the year 1914, the scope of the inquiry was considerably extended, and particulars included of the weekly rates of wage in respect of 930 specific occupations. The aggregate collection for the six States amounted to 4,256 adult occupations (3,948 male, and 308 female). The results obtained thereby to the 30th April, 1914, were published in Labour Report No. 5, pp. 44-50. These results were further analysed, and the average number of working hours which constituted a full week's work in each occupation was ascertained and weighted in a similar manner to the rates of wage. This course was adopted in order to overcome the difficulty of making comparisons between States of the rates of wage in any specified occupation, since, in many instances, a different number of working hours constituted a full week's work in different States. By dividing the weighted average number of working hours into the weighted average weekly rate of wage, a more satisfactory standard of comparison was ascertained. Results obtained from these computations were given for each industrial group for each State.

Since the 30th April, 1914, the number of occupations included in comparative computations has been slightly reduced. When technical change or some other factor has led to the disappearance of the original occupation from an award, agreement, or determination, the usual practice has been to substitute a similar occupation with a comparable rate of wage. In some cases, however, such a substitution could not be made and the slight drop in the total number of occupations included has resulted. The particulars of wages given in the Appendix (Sections VI. and VII.) to this Report include all the more important occupations. These have been taken from awards or determinations made by industrial tribunals, or from agreements registered under Commonwealth or State Acts.

To supplement the results thus obtained, investigations were made regarding rates of wage in past years with a view to showing their general trend in each State and in the several industrial groups. The total number of occupations for which particulars were available back to 1891 was 652.

The particulars given in this Chapter show variations in nominal wages from year to year in each State and in various industrial groups. Index-numbers are also given showing variations in effective wages in each State. The figures of nominal wages and hours are in course of revision to meet changes in industrial structure. The amounts should not be regarded as actual current averages but as an index of changes expressed in money and hour terms.

A comparison of wage-rates and hours of labour for certain occupations in Australia, Great Britain and Northern Ireland and New Zealand will be found in Section VIII. of the Appendix.

**2. Adult Male Weekly Wages—States, 1891-1950.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers at the dates specified for a full week's work in each State and for Australia. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates (a).*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included. (b)	870	894	615	562	477	466	3,884

**RATES OF WAGE.**

	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1891 .. ..	44 1	40 5	46 6	41 7	52 4	38 6	43 5
" " 1901 .. ..	43 11	40 9	46 2	42 0	53 11	36 10	43 5
" " 1911 .. ..	51 5	50 6	51 1	51 11	59 0	41 0	51 3
" " 1914 .. ..	56 2	54 7	53 5	54 5	62 10	52 8	55 7
" " 1921 .. ..	95 10	93 7	96 8	89 5	95 0	91 8	94 6
" " 1929 .. ..	102 11	101 1	101 2	97 2	100 7	94 8	101 2
" " 1931 .. ..	93 5	82 2	89 0	75 0	84 1	79 9	86 10
" " 1941 .. ..	105 4	104 5	101 9	100 3	110 2	99 3	104 3
" " 1945 .. ..	121 10	120 4	119 10	114 5	122 9	116 11	120 4
" " 1946 .. ..	130 11	128 11	128 0	121 4	125 7	125 2	128 6
" " 1947 .. ..	141 3	136 10	134 9	133 10	137 8	133 0	137 11
" " 1948 .. ..	159 9	155 5	151 4	153 7	156 6	153 2	156 4
" " 1949 .. ..	171 11	168 11	167 10	165 3	171 6	165 4	169 8
31st March, 1950 .. ..	174 9	172 9	170 3	168 8	175 6	167 11	172 10
30th June, 1950 .. ..	179 4	176 10	176 11	172 3	178 8	169 7	177 3
30th September, 1950 .. ..	184 6	180 8	180 2	176 11	183 4	174 7	181 8
31st December, 1950 .. ..	209 6	204 5	199 10	200 6	208 3	199 7	205 6

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1891 .. ..	861	789	908	811	1,022	751	818
" " 1901 .. ..	858	796	901	819	1,052	719	848
" " 1911 .. ..	1,003	985	997	1,013	1,152	799	1,000
" " 1914 .. ..	1,096	1,065	1,042	1,062	1,226	1,028	1,085
" " 1921 .. ..	1,869	1,826	1,886	1,745	1,853	1,788	1,844
" " 1929 .. ..	2,007	1,972	1,975	1,896	1,963	1,848	1,974
" " 1931 .. ..	1,823	1,603	1,737	1,463	1,641	1,556	1,694
" " 1941 .. ..	2,056	2,037	1,985	1,957	2,149	1,937	2,034
" " 1945 .. ..	2,377	2,347	2,339	2,233	2,395	2,282	2,348
" " 1946 .. ..	2,554	2,515	2,498	2,368	2,450	2,442	2,507
" " 1947 .. ..	2,757	2,670	2,630	2,612	2,686	2,595	2,690
" " 1948 .. ..	3,117	3,032	2,953	2,997	3,054	2,988	3,050
" " 1949 .. ..	3,355	3,296	3,276	3,225	3,346	3,227	3,310
31st March, 1950 .. ..	3,410	3,371	3,322	3,290	3,425	3,276	3,372
30th June, 1950 .. ..	3,499	3,450	3,452	3,360	3,486	3,309	3,458
30th September, 1950 .. ..	3,600	4,526	3,516	3,452	3,577	3,406	3,545
31st December, 1950 .. ..	4,088	3,989	3,900	3,911	4,064	3,895	4,000

(a) The figures of nominal wages and hours of labour are in course of revision to meet changes in industrial structure. The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages but as an index of changes expressed in money and hour terms.

(b) As at 31st December, 1950.

**3. Adult Male Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1891-1950.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups, and (b) the weighted average wage for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups for the year 1911 as base (= 1,000) :—

## Weekly Wage Rates: Adult Males, Industrial Groups.

Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in each Industrial Group(a).

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.															All Industrial Groups.
	I. Wood, Furniture, etc.	II. Engineering, etc.	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	V. Books, Printing, etc.	VI. Other Manufacturing.	VII. Building.	VIII. Mining.	IX. Railways, etc.	X. Other Land Transport.	XI. Shipping, etc.(b)	XII. Agricultural, etc.(c)	XIII. Domestic, etc.(c)	XIV. Miscellaneous.		
RATES OF WAGE.																
31st December, 1891 ..	s. d. 52 5	s. d. 47 8	s. d. 38 2	s. d. 36 8	s. d. 53 5	s. d. 46 4	s. d. 50 6	s. d. 58 1	s. d. 50 10	s. d. 39 6	s. d. 38 2	s. d. 34 10	s. d. 32 10	s. d. 39 7	s. d. 43 5	
" " 1901 ..	52 3	48 5	44 7	36 3	51 0	46 5	53 10	54 8	52 4	40 9	38 5	32 1	30 8	38 10	435 5	
" " 1911 ..	57 8	54 6	50 0	50 3	58 11	51 11	61 2	61 2	57 0	46 7	44 7	43 0	45 5	47 7	51 3	
" " 1914 ..	59 6	57 9	55 8	53 0	63 10	56 0	65 5	65 2	59 8	52 8	49 10	49 5	47 11	54 0	55 6	
" " 1921 ..	98 2	98 2	93 10	93 3	104 7	95 0	102 5	105 4	97 5	90 2	101 8	89 0	84 2	91 1	94 6	
" " 1929 ..	104 10	103 6	100 10	99 6	119 1	102 2	113 0	110 7	105 2	96 9	107 0	95 6	92 6	96 8	101 2	
" " 1931 ..	85 7	86 3	88 6	83 11	102 0	85 4	98 9	102 5	86 7	83 11	81 10	80 3	85 3	83 11	86 10	
" " 1939 ..	100 1	99 3	96 9	93 2	114 3	95 8	106 5	109 1	96 6	92 10	98 6	84 0	89 11	92 10	95 3	
" " 1941 ..	108 5	110 0	106 1	105 7	119 6	107 0	116 11	115 1	108 8	101 11	106 9	93 6	97 10	101 2	104 3	
" " 1945 ..	121 4	121 0	118 9	118 11	134 9	119 3	130 11	127 2	122 9	113 5	122 3	121 9	109 9	114 7	120 4	
" " 1946 ..	129 2	129 1	126 9	126 11	148 2	128 1	141 10	134 6	130 10	121 7	131 6	129 0	117 4	122 6	128 6	
" " 1947 ..	140 2	144 0	134 8	132 8	158 7	136 8	154 0	148 4	142 3	128 6	136 4	136 5	126 11	130 10	137 11	
" " 1948 ..	155 6	155 10	151 6	153 7	177 2	153 11	171 9	163 5	156 1	145 8	182 0	158 1	141 5	148 3	156 4	
" " 1949 ..	166 7	166 1	166 2	164 2	194 7	165 1	183 0	175 7	167 3	160 0	192 4	174 7	154 9	162 0	169 8	
31st March, 1950 ..	169 6	169 4	170 0	165 4	198 1	169 8	186 4	179 11	170 7	163 6	196 5	176 8	157 11	165 3	172 10	
30th June, 1950 ..	171 11	172 0	173 8	176 6	201 10	172 7	189 1	183 10	173 6	166 1	198 6	186 1	160 10	167 11	177 3	
30th September, 1950 ..	177 6	175 6	177 8	177 7	204 9	176 5	193 1	188 2	177 2	169 9	201 9	193 4	164 5	171 6	181 8	
31st December, 1950 ..	199 8	198 2	199 11	202 10	228 9	199 0	215 11	211 0	199 2	192 7	230 2	222 2	186 8	192 9	205 6	

## INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base: Weighted Average Wage for Australia (51s. 3d.), 1911 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1891 ..	1,023	931	745	716	1,043	904	986	1,134	992	772	745	680	641	773	848
" " 1901 ..	1,019	945	871	708	996	907	1,050	1,067	1,021	795	751	627	598	759	848
" " 1911 ..	1,125	1,064	991	981	1,149	1,013	1,213	1,194	1,113	910	871	839	887	929	1,000
" " 1914 ..	1,161	1,127	1,085	1,034	1,246	1,093	1,276	1,272	1,165	1,026	972	965	935	1,054	1,085
" " 1921 ..	1,916	1,915	1,832	1,819	2,040	1,854	1,999	2,056	1,901	1,760	1,984	1,736	1,642	1,778	1,844
" " 1929 ..	2,046	2,019	1,967	1,942	2,323	1,994	2,205	2,157	2,052	1,888	2,087	1,863	1,804	1,886	1,974
" " 1931 ..	1,669	1,683	1,727	1,638	1,991	1,664	1,926	1,999	1,690	1,638	1,596	1,566	1,663	1,637	1,694
" " 1939 ..	1,953	1,930	1,888	1,817	2,229	1,867	2,076	2,142	1,884	1,812	1,922	1,639	1,755	1,811	1,858
" " 1941 ..	2,116	2,147	2,071	2,060	2,332	2,088	2,282	2,245	2,121	1,989	2,082	1,825	1,908	1,974	2,034
" " 1945 ..	2,368	2,361	2,316	2,321	2,630	2,326	2,555	2,482	2,396	2,213	2,385	2,142	2,142	2,236	2,348
" " 1946 ..	2,520	2,519	2,473	2,476	2,891	2,499	2,768	2,624	2,553	2,372	2,566	2,517	2,280	2,390	2,507
" " 1947 ..	2,735	2,811	2,628	2,589	3,094	2,667	3,005	2,895	2,775	2,507	2,661	2,662	2,476	2,553	2,690
" " 1948 ..	3,034	3,041	2,956	2,997	3,457	3,003	3,352	3,189	3,045	2,843	3,551	3,085	2,759	2,893	3,050
" " 1949 ..	3,250	3,241	3,243	3,204	3,796	3,221	3,570	3,426	3,263	3,123	3,753	3,497	3,020	3,161	3,310
31st March, 1950 ..	3,307	3,304	3,317	3,226	3,865	3,310	3,636	3,511	3,328	3,190	3,833	3,447	3,082	3,225	3,372
30th June, 1950 ..	3,355	3,356	3,389	3,443	3,939	3,367	3,690	3,588	3,385	3,241	3,874	3,631	3,138	3,276	3,458
30th September, 1950 ..	3,464	3,424	3,467	3,466	3,994	3,442	3,767	3,456	3,312	3,037	3,937	3,773	3,208	3,346	3,545
31st December, 1950 ..	3,896	3,867	3,901	3,957	4,463	3,883	4,212	4,118	3,887	3,757	4,491	4,335	3,643	3,761	4,009

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59.

(b) Including the value of victualling and accommodation where supplied.

(c) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

4. **Adult Female Weekly Wages—States, 1914–1950.**—The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs for male adult workers were computed with the weighted average wage in 1911 as base (= 1,000). In the case of females, however, it has not been possible to secure information for years prior to 1914, and the index-numbers are therefore computed with the weighted average rate of wage payable to adult female workers in Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

The following table shows the weighted average nominal weekly rate of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work in each State and Australia at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (=1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates(a).*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia.
No. of Occupations included <sup>b</sup>	84	87	38	47	24	32	312

**RATES OF WAGE.**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
31st December, 1914 ..	26 10	27 9	27 1	24 1	37 4	25 10	27 5
" " 1921 ..	49 0	47 10	50 3	45 2	56 4	47 6	48 8
" " 1929 ..	53 11	54 1	54 10	51 4	58 10	53 9	54 1
" " 1931 ..	49 8	45 10	47 11	43 1	51 7	45 8	47 5
" " 1939 ..	53 3	51 9	55 2	49 7	55 8	50 8	52 8
" " 1941 ..	57 11	58 4	59 6	55 5	60 4	56 7	58 2
" " 1945 ..	72 7	75 7	74 10	67 2	67 6	71 3	73 5
" " 1946 ..	80 4	82 6	82 4	76 0	73 10	77 8	80 9
" " 1947 ..	84 3	88 6	85 10	80 10	80 1	81 11	85 8
" " 1948 ..	100 0	103 1	98 4	95 1	93 5	96 8	100 4
31st March, 1949 ..	101 2	104 7	99 8	96 1	98 1	97 5	101 9
31st June, 1949 ..	103 6	107 9	101 9	98 10	100 9	100 2	104 5
30th September, 1949 ..	105 10	109 5	103 2	99 3	102 10	104 0	106 3
31st December, 1949 ..	108 1	112 4	108 5	101 0	105 5	106 4	109 1
31st March, 1950 ..	109 5	114 3	109 8	102 4	106 2	107 5	110 9
30th June, 1950 ..	114 3	120 7	115 7	108 3	112 9	114 5	116 5
30th September, 1950 ..	115 10	122 1	116 11	109 4	114 0	116 0	117 10
31st December, 1950 ..	139 11	142 11	135 11	142 1	132 3	137 2	140 5

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914 ..	987	1,022	996	885	1,373	950	1,008
" " 1921 ..	1,803	1,761	1,849	1,661	2,074	1,749	1,790
" " 1929 ..	1,983	1,990	2,020	1,888	2,165	1,978	1,990
" " 1931 ..	1,828	1,688	1,765	1,584	1,900	1,681	1,746
" " 1939 ..	1,960	1,906	2,031	1,826	2,049	1,866	1,938
" " 1941 ..	2,133	2,148	2,191	2,038	2,220	2,082	2,141
" " 1945 ..	2,671	2,782	2,754	2,471	2,484	2,621	2,701
" " 1946 ..	2,956	3,035	3,031	2,797	2,718	2,860	2,972
" " 1947 ..	3,102	3,256	3,160	2,976	2,947	3,014	3,152
" " 1948 ..	3,681	3,795	3,618	3,499	3,438	3,559	3,694
31st March, 1949 ..	3,724	3,848	3,668	3,538	3,611	3,584	3,745
31st June, 1949 ..	3,811	3,967	3,745	3,637	3,710	3,686	3,844
30th September, 1949 ..	3,896	4,026	3,798	3,653	3,784	3,826	3,911
31st December, 1949 ..	3,979	4,134	3,990	3,710	3,880	3,915	4,015
31st March, 1950 ..	4,028	4,205	4,038	3,767	3,906	3,955	4,072
30th June, 1950 ..	4,206	4,438	4,255	3,984	4,151	4,211	4,284
30th September, 1950 ..	4,264	4,493	4,303	4,023	4,194	4,269	4,338
31st December, 1950 ..	5,150	5,259	5,003	5,229	4,866	5,050	5,169

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59.

(b) As at 31st December, 1950.

**5. Adult Female Weekly Wages—Australia—Industrial Groups, 1914-1950.**—The following table shows for Australia (a) the weighted average weekly rate of wage in each of the industrial groups in which females are mainly employed, and (b) the weighted average rate for all groups combined, at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each industrial group with the average for all groups at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Wage Rates : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.**

*Weighted Average Nominal Weekly Rates payable for a Full Week's Work and Index-numbers of Wage Rates in Industrial Groups(a).*

Date.	INDUSTRIAL GROUP.					
	III. Food, Drink, etc.	IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc.	I., II., V., and VI. All Other Manu- facturing.	XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.(b)	XIV. Miscel- laneous.	All Groups.
<b>RATES OF WAGE.</b>						
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
31st December, 1914 ..	23 5	24 11	27 0	30 2	31 4	27 5
" " 1921 ..	43 9	48 7	48 0	48 6	50 0	48 8
" " 1929 ..	49 4	54 4	53 11	54 9	53 10	54 1
" " 1931 ..	44 4	45 5	46 11	50 9	49 10	47 5
" " 1939 ..	48 9	50 9	51 11	54 5	56 8	52 8
" " 1941 ..	53 5	57 4	58 0	58 9	60 7	58 2
" " 1945 ..	67 7	75 3	72 0	67 5	76 4	73 5
" " 1946 ..	74 9	84 7	79 5	72 9	81 0	80 9
" " 1947 ..	83 3	87 7	90 2	76 7	88 5	85 8
" " 1948 ..	95 10	101 7	103 3	89 3	107 9	100 4
31st March, 1949 ..	98 6	102 3	105 7	91 0	109 9	101 9
30th June, 1949 ..	100 0	105 0	107 2	92 7	112 11	104 5
30th September, 1949 ..	103 2	106 3	110 3	95 2	115 10	106 3
31st December, 1949 ..	105 5	109 5	111 11	97 5	119 1	109 1
31st March, 1950 ..	108 0	110 0	115 0	99 5	121 7	110 9
30th June, 1950 ..	111 4	119 7	117 3	101 6	123 8	116 5
30th September, 1950 ..	113 10	120 1	119 6	103 6	126 1	117 10
31st December, 1950 ..	135 9	139 2	147 1	132 1	149 9	140 5

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (27s. 2d.), 30th April, 1914, = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914 ..	862	917	994	1,110	1,153	1,008
" " 1921 ..	1,609	1,789	1,766	1,787	1,841	1,790
" " 1929 ..	1,815	1,999	1,984	2,015	1,982	1,990
" " 1931 ..	1,630	1,672	1,728	1,869	1,834	1,746
" " 1939 ..	1,795	1,869	1,910	2,003	2,085	1,938
" " 1941 ..	1,967	2,110	2,134	2,163	2,229	2,141
" " 1945 ..	2,486	2,768	2,651	2,481	2,809	2,701
" " 1946 ..	2,751	3,113	2,922	2,678	2,980	2,972
" " 1947 ..	3,004	3,222	3,317	2,820	3,253	3,152
" " 1948 ..	3,526	3,739	3,802	3,284	3,967	3,694
31st March, 1949 ..	3,625	3,764	3,886	3,350	4,041	3,745
30th June, 1949 ..	3,681	3,883	3,944	3,408	4,157	3,844
30th September, 1949 ..	3,796	3,911	4,059	3,501	4,262	3,911
31st December, 1949 ..	3,879	4,026	4,118	3,586	4,384	4,015
31st March, 1950 ..	3,975	4,049	4,232	3,660	4,476	4,072
30th June, 1950 ..	4,098	4,400	4,315	3,735	4,552	4,284
30th September, 1950 ..	4,190	4,421	4,399	3,811	4,642	4,338
31st December, 1950 ..	4,096	5,121	5,112	4,861	5,512	5,166

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59.

(b) Including the value of board and lodging where supplied.

**6. Weekly and Hourly Rates of Wage, and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1950.**—(i) *General.*—The rates of wage referred to in the preceding paragraphs are the minima payable for a full week's work. The number of hours constituting a full week's work differs, however, in some instances, between various trades and occupations in each State, and between

the same trades and occupations in the several States. To secure what may be for some purposes a better comparison, the results in the preceding paragraphs are reduced to a common basis, namely, the rate of wage per hour in industrial groups in each State and in all States. In the Appendix (Sections VI. and VII.) details are given of the number of hours worked per week in the various industries. The following tables include the average number of hours per week in industrial groups for each State.

The tables show (a) the average weekly wage; (b) the average number of working hours per week for a full week's work, and (c) the average hourly wage for adult male and female workers in each State and industrial group except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.) and XII. (Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.). Some of the occupations included in the latter two groups are of a casual or seasonal nature, and the hours of labour are not generally regulated either by awards or determinations of industrial tribunals or in other ways. Hence the necessary definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available.

(ii) *Adult Males.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1950.

**Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour : Adult Males, Industrial Groups.**

*Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1950(a).*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia. (b)
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ...	Weekly Wage	206/2	201/5	186/1	196/9	198/1	199/0	199/8
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/1½	5/0½	4/7½	4/11	4/11½	4/11½	5/0
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ...	Weekly Wage	201/0	196/10	193/2	193/9	204/4	200/10	198/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/0½	4/11	4/10	4/10½	5/1½	5/0½	4/11½
III. Food, Drink, etc. ...	Weekly Wage	201/2	207/7	187/6	199/6	196/10	199/3	199/11
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/0½	5/2½	4/8½	4/11½	4/11	4/11½	5/0
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ...	Weekly Wage	200/7	202/3	208/0	208/0	210/11	200/10	202/10
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/0½	5/0½	5/2½	5/2½	5/3½	5/0½	5/0½
V. Books, Printing, etc. ...	Weekly Wage	240/1	222/8	210/2	223/7	234/1	230/1	228/9
	Working Hours	40.00	39.5½	40.00	40.00	37.69	40.00	39.72
	Hourly Wage	6/0	5/6½	5/3	5/7	6/2½	5/9	5/9
VI. Other Manufacturing ...	Weekly Wage	201/3	198/4	187/3	200/9	201/8	202/3	199/0
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/0½	4/11½	4/8½	5/0½	5/0½	5/0½	4/11½
VII. Building ...	Weekly Wage	218/10	218/3	206/9	211/4	212/7	209/0	215/11
	Working Hours	39.94	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	39.98
	Hourly Wage	5/5½	5/5½	5/2	5/3½	5/3½	5/2½	5/4½
VIII. Mining(d) ...	Weekly Wage	212/0	205/8	200/8	199/1	229/7	202/11	211/0
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	38.26	40.00	39.74
	Hourly Wage	5/3½	5/1½	5/0½	4/11½	6/0	5/1	5/3½
IX. Rail and Tram Services ...	Weekly Wage	203/10	200/6	190/5	191/0	199/7	197/2	199/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	5/1½	5/0½	4/9	4/9½	5/0	4/11½	4/11½
X. Other Land Transport ...	Weekly Wage	198/4	191/7	179/1	188/8	191/6	192/4	192/7
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/11½	4/9½	4/5½	4/8½	4/9½	4/9½	4/9½

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59. (b) Weighted average. (c) Excludes district allowances in the gold-mining industry. (d) Average rates of wage and hours prevailing at the principal mining centres in each State.

**Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour : Adult Males, Industrial Groups—continued.**

*Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1950(a)—continued.*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia. (b)
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	Weekly Wage	228/4	232/2	233/11	228/11	230/5	230/0	230/2
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc.	Weekly Wage	226/0	217/3	226/11	219/10	224/3	202/10	222/2
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. {	Weekly Wage(e)	194/11	187/10	172/2	177/3	178/4	179/3	186/8
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage(e)	4/10½	4/8½	4/3½	4/5½	4/5½	4/5½	4/8
XIV. Miscellaneous .. {	Weekly Wage	199/1	195/11	178/2	182/2	187/5	187/9	192/9
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	4/11½	4/10½	4/5½	4/6½	4/8½	4/8½	4/9½
All Groups(b) .. ..	Weekly Wage	209/6	204/5	199/10	200/6	208/3	199/7	205/6
All Groups except XI. and XII.(b) .. .. {	Weekly Wage	204/4	200/10	188/4	192/9	203/9	196/10	199/11
	Working Hours	39.99	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.54	40.00	39.96
	Hourly Wage	5/1½	5/0½	4/8½	4/9½	5/1½	4/11	5/0

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59. (b) Weighted average. (c) Average rates of wage are for occupations other than Masters, Officers and Engineers in the Merchant Marine Service, and include value of victualling and accommodation, where supplied. (d) Definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wages are not available. (e) Includes the estimated value of board and lodging, where supplied.

(iii) *Adult Females.*—The following table shows the average nominal weekly and hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and the weekly hours of labour at 31st December, 1950 :—

**Weekly and Hourly Wage Rates and Weekly Hours of Labour : Adult Females, Industrial Groups.**

*Average Rates of Wage Payable and Weekly Hours of Labour, 31st December, 1950(a).*

Industrial Group.	Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia. (b)
III. Food, Drink, etc. .. {	Weekly Wage	135/5	138/1	118/4	145/3	128/8	144/9	135/9
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	3/4½	3/5½	2/11½	3/7½	3/2½	3/7½	3/4½
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. .. {	Weekly Wage	137/7	138/7	141/10	141/10	144/4	140/10	139/2
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	3/5½	3/5½	3/6½	3/6½	3/7½	3/6½	3/5½
I., II., V., & VI. All Other Manufacturing {	Weekly Wage	145/10	148/3	141/9	153/1	..	140/0	147/1
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	..	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	3/7½	3/8½	3/6½	3/10	..	3/6	3/8
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. .. {	Weekly Wage(c)	132/0	140/8	121/3	141/10	120/2	127/4	132/1
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage(c)	3/3½	3/6½	3/0½	3/6½	3/0	3/2½	3/3½
XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc. {	Weekly Wage	149/7	155/5	142/5	140/0	..	..	149/9
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	..	..	40.00
	Hourly Wage	3/9	3/10½	3/6½	3/6	..	..	3/9
All Groups(b) .. .. {	Weekly Wage	139/11	142/11	135/11	142/1	132/3	137/2	140/5
	Working Hours	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
	Hourly Wage	3/6	3/6½	3/4½	3/6½	3/3½	3/5½	3/6½

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59. (b) Weighted average. (c) Includes the value of board and lodging, where supplied, in order that the rate may be comparable with those paid in other industries.

7. **Adult Male Hourly Wages—States, 1914-1950.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

**Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Males, States. (a)**

*Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates (to the nearest farthing) payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
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**RATES OF WAGE.**

	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
31st December, 1914	1 2	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 1	1 2
" " 1921	2 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 2	1 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 1	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " 1929	2 4	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 3
" " 1931	2 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1939	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 4	2 0	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1941	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 5	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 3	2 5 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " 1945	2 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 9	2 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 9
" " 1946	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 11	2 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 11 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " 1947	3 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 1	3 3
" " 1948	3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 11	3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1949	4 3	4 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 1	4 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
" " 1950	5 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 11	5 0

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (13.96d.) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914	1,010	990	985	993	1,173	936	1,009
" " 1921	1,817	1,741	1,865	1,637	1,796	1,675	1,779
" " 1929	2,011	1,895	2,001	1,808	1,923	1,751	1,940
" " 1931	1,873	1,527	1,749	1,383	1,617	1,480	1,676
" " 1939	1,963	1,834	1,979	1,692	2,001	1,717	1,903
" " 1941	2,138	2,071	2,092	1,956	2,240	1,938	2,098
" " 1945	2,408	2,355	2,347	2,192	2,446	2,255	2,365
" " 1946	2,593	2,533	2,509	2,339	2,491	2,423	2,529
" " 1947	2,974	2,799	2,638	2,692	2,754	2,648	2,797
" " 1948	3,399	3,322	3,180	3,246	3,364	3,254	3,327
" " 1949	3,654	3,605	3,463	3,484	3,691	3,515	3,599
" " 1950	4,393	4,318	4,047	4,142	4,430	4,230	4,301

(a) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industrial groups except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for some of the occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII. See also note (a) to table on page 59.



8. **Adult Female Hourly Wages—States, 1914 to 1950.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers in each State at the dates specified. Index-numbers are also given for each State with the average for Australia at 30th April, 1914 as base (= 1,000).

### Hourly Wage Rates : Adult Females, States.

*Weighted Average Nominal Hourly Rates (to the nearest farthing) payable and Index-numbers of Hourly Rates(a).*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
RATES OF WAGE.							
31st December, 1914	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 6¾	s. d. 0 6½	s. d. 0 5¾	s. d. 0 9	s. d. 0 6	s. d. 0 6¾
" " 1921	1 1	1 0½	1 1¼	0 11¾	1 2¾	1 0	1 0¾
" " 1929	1 2¾	1 2½	1 3	1 1½	1 3½	1 2	1 2½
" " 1931	1 1½	1 0	1 1	0 11¼	1 1½	1 0	1 0¾
" " 1939	1 2½	1 2	1 3	1 1	1 2¾	1 1½	1 2¼
" " 1941	1 3¾	1 3¾	1 4¼	1 3	1 4½	1 3½	1 3¾
" " 1945	1 7¼	1 8½	1 8½	1 6¼	1 6½	1 7½	1 8
" " 1946	1 10	1 10½	1 10½	1 8¾	1 8¼	1 9¼	1 10
" " 1947	2 0¼	2 0¼	1 11½	1 11	1 9¾	1 10¼	1 11¾
" " 1948	2 6	2 7	2 5½	2 4½	2 4	2 5	2 6
" " 1949	2 8½	2 9¾	2 8½	2 6½	2 7½	2 8	2 8¾
" " 1950	3 6	3 6¾	3 4¼	3 6½	3 3¼	3 5¼	3 6¼

### INDEX-NUMBERS.

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (6.64d.), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914	983	1,035	983	881	1,364	920	1,000
" " 1921	1,965	1,878	1,989	1,770	2,215	1,794	1,923
" " 1929	2,218	2,154	2,252	2,015	2,333	2,108	2,182
" " 1931	2,044	1,822	1,943	1,688	2,045	1,791	1,910
" " 1939	2,193	2,107	2,267	1,952	2,217	2,032	2,145
" " 1941	2,387	2,387	2,444	2,274	2,477	2,324	2,387
" " 1945	2,989	3,090	3,074	2,758	2,773	2,925	3,012
" " 1946	3,307	3,373	3,383	3,122	3,033	3,191	3,315
" " 1947	3,646	3,634	3,527	3,464	3,289	3,363	3,593
" " 1948	4,518	4,658	4,441	4,295	4,220	4,369	4,535
" " 1949	4,884	5,074	4,898	4,562	4,762	4,806	4,929
" " 1950	6,322	6,455	6,142	6,419	5,973	6,199	6,345

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59.

9. **Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Males, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult male workers in each State and Australia at 31st December, 1914 to 1950. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) : Adult Males, States.(a)**

*Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week.*

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
31st December, 1914	49.35	48.66	48.64	48.59	48.18	48.62	48.87
" " 1921	45.66	46.95	45.52	47.07	46.24	46.84	46.22
" " 1929	44.14	46.83	43.96	46.83	45.58	47.09	45.34
" " 1931	44.22	46.88	44.98	46.83	45.55	46.76	45.51
" " 1939	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
" " 1941	43.68	44.12	43.43	44.49	43.13	44.42	43.83
" " 1945	43.50	43.91	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.59
" " 1946	43.50	43.82	43.18	44.07	43.15	43.38	43.57
" " 1947	41.11	43.68	43.18	42.84	43.15	43.27	42.51
" " 1948	40.00	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.57	40.00	39.96
" " 1949	39.99	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.54	40.00	39.96
" " 1950	39.99	39.99	40.00	40.00	39.54	40.00	39.96

**WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR.**

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (48.93), 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914	1,009	994	994	993	985	994	999
" " 1921	933	960	930	962	945	957	945
" " 1929	902	957	898	957	932	962	927
" " 1931	904	958	919	957	931	956	930
" " 1939	898	912	888	937	906	926	905
" " 1941	893	902	888	909	881	908	896
" " 1945	889	897	882	901	882	887	891
" " 1946	889	896	882	901	882	887	890
" " 1947	840	893	882	876	882	884	869
" " 1948	817	817	817	817	809	817	817
" " 1949	817	817	817	817	808	817	817
" " 1950	817	817	817	817	808	817	817

(a) Weighted average working hours per week for all industrial groups except Groups XI. (Shipping, etc.), and XII. (Agricultural, Pastoral, etc.). Working hours have not been generally regulated by industrial tribunals for some of the occupations classified in Industrial Groups XI. and XII. See also note (a) to table on page 59.

10. **Nominal Weekly Hours of Labour—Adult Females, States.**—The following table shows the weighted average nominal hours of labour (excluding overtime) in a full working week for adult female workers in each State and Australia at 31st December, 1914 to 1950. Index-numbers are given for each State with the weighted average hours of labour for Australia at 30th April, 1914, as base (= 1,000).

**Weekly Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) : Adult Females, States.**  
**Weighted Average Nominal Hours of Labour (excluding Overtime) worked during a Full Working Week(a).**

Date.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
WEEKLY HOURS OF LABOUR.							
31st December, 1914	49.34	48.54	49.82	49.33	49.44	50.76	49.11
" " 1921	45.06	46.04	45.66	46.10	45.97	47.86	45.69
" " 1929	43.93	45.40	44.01	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.79
" " 1931	43.93	45.44	44.56	46.03	45.57	46.07	44.88
" " 1939	43.88	44.42	44.01	45.96	45.38	45.10	44.36
" " 1941	43.88	44.19	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1945	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1946	43.88	44.19	44.00	43.99	44.00	44.00	44.03
" " 1947	41.78	43.99	44.00	42.19	44.00	44.00	43.08
" " 1948	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
" " 1949	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
" " 1950	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00

**INDEX-NUMBERS.**

(Base : Weighted Average for Australia (49.08) 30th April, 1914 = 1,000.)

31st December, 1914	1,005	989	1,015	1,005	1,007	1,034	1,001
" " 1921	918	938	930	939	937	975	931
" " 1929	895	925	897	938	928	939	913
" " 1931	895	926	908	938	928	939	914
" " 1939	894	905	897	936	925	919	904
" " 1941	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1945	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1946	894	900	896	896	896	896	897
" " 1947	851	896	896	860	896	896	878
" " 1948	814	814	814	814	814	814	814
" " 1949	814	814	814	814	814	814	814
" " 1950	814	814	814	814	814	814	814

(a) See note (a) to table on page 59.

**II. Nominal and Effective Wages.**—(i) *General.* Index-numbers of wage rates are said to be *nominal* when they represent changes in the wage rates themselves but are described as *effective* or *real* when they represent changes in equivalent purchasing power, that is, the purchasing power of the corresponding wages in terms of some definite composite unit or regimen the cost of which can be ascertained at different times. The relation between *nominal* and *effective* or *real* wages was discussed at some length in Labour Report No. 6, and was also referred to in Labour Report No. 11.

Since it is possible to measure purchasing power over more than one composite unit or regimen it is equally possible to convert any given nominal wage series into more than one series of effective or real wages. Prior to 1936 it was the practice of the Bureau to compute effective wage index-numbers by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for food, groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series). While wage-rates were generally varied on the basis of the "A"\*

\* For explanation of "A" series, see page 37.

series index-numbers there was a good deal to be said for this procedure. When the Commonwealth Court abandoned the "A" series, the merits of the "C"\* series of retail price index-numbers for "deflating" nominal wage rates were strengthened. The "C" series covers food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing and miscellaneous household requirements. As the computation of the "A" series index by this Bureau was discontinued after the June quarter, 1938, real wages are measured in terms of their purchasing power over the "C" series only. A table showing for each State and for Australia real wages to the end of 1937 measured in terms of their purchasing power over the "A" series appeared in previous issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 38, page 70). Real wages for Australia on this basis appear on page 70 hereof.

(ii) *Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States, 1911 to 1950.*—The following table shows for the period 1911 to 1950 the weighted average nominal weekly rates of wage in each State, the weighted average rate for Australia in 1911 being taken as the base (= 1,000). The index-numbers for 1911 are based on rates current at the end of December, annual averages not being available. For 1914 and subsequent years, however, the index-numbers have been computed from the average of the rates current at the end of each quarter.

#### Nominal Wage Index-Numbers: Adult Males, States.

(Base : Weighted Average Weekly Wage for Australia, 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1931.	1939.	1941.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
N.S.Wales ..	1,003	1,093	1,862	2,012	1,851	1,874	2,024	2,365	2,367	2,431	2,647	2,973	3,259	3,649
Victoria ..	985	1,062	1,803	1,964	1,683	1,808	1,984	2,323	2,340	2,403	2,585	2,909	3,200	3,584
Queensland ..	997	1,035	1,879	1,976	1,769	1,885	1,981	2,288	2,326	2,384	2,580	2,840	3,146	3,548
S. Australia ..	1,013	1,061	1,697	1,891	1,580	1,725	1,897	2,212	2,228	2,285	2,496	2,841	3,150	3,503
W. Australia ..	1,152	1,223	1,832	1,960	1,745	1,956	2,106	2,368	2,389	2,424	2,597	2,888	3,226	3,638
Tasmania ..	799	1,027	1,745	1,840	1,625	1,738	1,895	2,268	2,273	2,336	2,512	2,861	3,149	3,472
Australia ..	1,000	1,081	1,826	1,972	1,752	1,846	1,997	2,326	2,339	2,400	2,598	2,914	3,210	3,596

(iii) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, States—1911-1950.*—In obtaining the effective wage index-numbers in the following table the nominal wage index-numbers shown above have been divided by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the capital city and multiplied by 1,000.

Since the "C" series index-numbers were not compiled for periods prior to November, 1914, it has been assumed for the purpose of the following table that fluctuations between 1911 (the base of the table) and 1914 in the "C" series would have been similar to the fluctuations observed in the "A" series.

#### Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work): Measured in terms of purchasing power over the "C" series regimen.

(Base : Weighted Average Real Wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

State.	1911.	1914.	1921.	1929.	1931.	1939.	1941.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
N.S.Wales ..	..	925	1,073	1,130	1,210	1,207	1,187	1,247	1,249	1,258	1,316	1,359	1,365	1,380
Victoria ..	..	954	1,084	1,164	1,200	1,180	1,187	1,234	1,243	1,260	1,312	1,355	1,363	1,381
Queensland ..	..	1,022	1,227	1,290	1,336	1,306	1,240	1,288	1,307	1,314	1,367	1,379	1,407	1,453
S. Australia ..	..	914	1,034	1,099	1,137	1,147	1,158	1,214	1,218	1,229	1,291	1,341	1,362	1,388
W. Australia ..	..	1,043	1,096	1,152	1,189	1,279	1,292	1,300	1,296	1,348	1,377	1,379	1,426	1,426
Tasmania ..	..	902	984	1,108	1,120	1,153	1,142	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,285	1,334	1,338	1,371
Australia ..	1,000	948	1,087	1,151	1,210	1,211	1,194	1,246	1,252	1,263	1,318	1,357	1,367	1,389

In the above table the *effective* wage index-numbers are computed to the one base, that of Australia for 1911. As the index-numbers are

\* For explanation of "C" series, *see* page 38.

comparable in all respects, comparisons may be made as to the increase or decrease in the *effective* wage index-number for any State over any period of years.

(iv) *Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers—Adult Males, Australia—1901–1950.* In the following table similar index-numbers are given for Australia as a whole under both the “A” and “C” series. These are obtained by dividing the nominal wage index-numbers for Australia for the year concerned by the corresponding retail price index-numbers for the six capital cities and multiplying by 1,000.

A similar table showing figures for each year from 1910 to 1949 may be found on page 71 of Labour Report, No. 38.

**Nominal and Effective or Real Wage Index-Numbers for Adult Males (Full Work)(a).**

(Base : Weighted Average Real Wage in Australia in 1911 = 1,000.)

Year.	Nominal Weekly Wage Index-numbers.	Retail Price Index-numbers.		Effective or Real Wage Index-numbers, i.e., relative purchasing power over regimen of—	
		“ A ” Series (Food, Groceries and Rent of All Houses).	“ C ” Series (All Items).	“ A ” Series.	“ C ” Series.
1901..	848	880	..	964	..
1911..	1,000	1,000	(1,000)	1,000	(1,000)
1914..	1,081	1,140	1,140	948	948
1921..	1,826	1,697	1,680	1,076	1,087
1929..	1,972	1,822	1,713	1,082	1,151
1931..	1,752	1,479	1,448	1,185	1,210
1932..	1,639	1,403	1,377	1,168	1,190
1933..	1,584	1,345	1,335	1,178	1,187
1934..	1,590	1,385	1,355	1,148	1,173
1935..	1,612	1,420	1,380	1,135	1,169
1936..	1,638	1,461	1,409	1,121	1,162
1937..	1,707	1,507	1,448	1,133	1,178
1938..	1,799	(b)	1,488	(b)	1,209
1939..	1,846	(b)	1,526	(b)	1,211
1940..	1,889	(b)	1,588	(b)	1,190
1941..	1,997	(b)	1,673	(b)	1,194
1942..	2,164	(b)	1,809	(b)	1,196
1943..	2,300	(b)	1,876	(b)	1,231
1944..	2,326	(b)	1,867	(b)	1,246
1945..	2,339	(b)	1,868	(b)	1,252
1946..	2,400	(b)	1,900	(b)	1,263
1947..	2,598	(b)	1,971	(b)	1,318
1948..	2,914	(b)	2,148	(b)	1,357
1949..	3,210	(b)	2,349	(b)	1,367
1950..	3,596	(b)	2,589	(b)	1,389

(a) As to the effect in abnormal periods, see page 20 of Labour Report No. 6. (b) Not available.

NOTE.—For years prior to 1914 the nominal wage index-numbers relate to the end of the year only but from 1914 onward these figures, in addition to those for retail prices, are averages for the whole year.

The *effective* or *real* wage in 1901 under the “A” series was 3.6 per cent. less than in 1911. During the period 1912 to 1920, while wages increased steadily, prices increased at a greater rate, with the result that the purchasing power of wages under both the “A” and the “C” series was less in each of these years than in 1911. The first occasion on which the *effective* wage was higher than in 1911 was in the year 1921.

In 1937, the last complete year for which both "A" and "C" series of retail price index-numbers are available, the *effective* wage was 13.1 per cent. higher than in 1911 under the "A" series and 17.7 per cent. higher under the "C" series.

As retail prices (as shown by the "C" series index), rose by only 10.2 per cent. in 1950, while nominal wages rose by 12.0 per cent., the *effective* wage index-number rose from 1,367 to 1,389. Index-numbers of nominal and effective wages as well as total and average weekly earnings for periods subsequent to 1950 appear in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

**12. Productive Activity.**—The preceding tables show the movement in *real* (or *effective*) wages, i.e., wages measured in series of retail purchasing power. A parallel problem is the measure of productivity, i.e., the quantity of production (irrespective of prices) in relation to population or persons engaged in production. The two tables, and comment thereon, usually published in this Section relative to measurement of productivity are omitted from this issue pending revision in the light of changes in age composition of the population as revealed by the Census of 1947 and of changes in age and sex compositions of persons engaged in production in recent years.

The following table shows the total recorded value of production valued as in the principal markets as ascertained from various sources during the years specified:—

**Estimated Gross Value of Australian Production.**

(Recorded Industries.)

(£'000.)

Year.	Agricultural.	Pastoral.	Dairy, Poultry and Bee Farming.	Forestry and Fisheries.	Mining.	Manufacturing. (a)	Total.
1906 ..	25,349	45,389	13,611	4,879	26,643	31,172	147,043
1911 ..	38,774	52,729	20,154	5,868	23,303	47,531	188,359
1914 ..	36,052	67,085	22,504	6,853	22,054	59,004	213,552
1920-21 ..	112,801	90,641	52,613	11,136	21,675	101,778	390,644
1928-29 ..	89,440	116,733	50,717	11,617	19,539	159,759	447,805
1930-31 ..	70,500	69,499	43,067	8,313	15,361	112,966	319,706
1931-32 ..	74,489	61,540	41,478	7,703	13,352	106,456	305,018
1932-33 ..	75,562	64,851	39,622	8,470	15,583	114,136	318,224
1933-34 ..	70,731	95,613	40,306	9,605	17,608	123,355	357,218
1934-35 ..	68,587	74,556	44,763	10,856	19,949	137,638	356,349
1935-36 ..	75,388	91,286	47,533	11,424	23,246	155,891	404,770
1936-37 ..	91,403	105,499	49,886	11,765	27,381	170,811	456,745
1937-38 ..	93,229	100,794	57,641	14,755	32,434	188,061	486,914
1938-39 ..	76,851	84,895	60,404	14,634	32,493	195,746	464,993
1939-40 ..	95,808	104,972	62,070	15,347	36,839	212,488	527,524
1940-41 ..	70,499	110,959	62,629	17,179	40,003	248,751	550,020
1941-42 ..	96,356	120,000	64,731	18,671	41,489	306,426	647,673
1942-43 ..	113,419	132,556	73,644	19,393	38,894	341,106	719,012
1943-44 ..	116,569	137,293	77,450	18,105	34,250	355,223	738,890
1944-45 ..	107,026	125,359	80,332	22,035	33,516	350,151	718,419
1945-46 ..	149,097	113,646	84,478	24,985	32,522	339,421	744,149
1946-47 ..	138,336	160,979	87,778	29,332	39,595	393,240	849,260
1947-48 ..	277,460	227,979	103,122	35,111	53,554	467,773	1,164,999
1948-49 ..	210,244	286,068	128,847	42,151	64,422	543,200	1,274,932
1949-50(b)	261,699	406,947	140,885	47,188	67,770	632,161	1,556,650

(a) Value added in process of manufacture. These amounts differ from those published in certain tables elsewhere owing to the inclusion in those tables of certain products which are here included in Dairy Farming and Forestry. (b) Subject to revision.

### § 3. Standard Hours of Work.

1. **General.**—In the fixation of weekly wage rates most industrial tribunals prescribe the number of hours constituting a full week's work for the wage rates specified. The hours of work so prescribed form the basis of the compilation of the index numbers on pages 65-68 of this Labour Report. The first year shown is 1914 at which time the 48-hour week was recognized as a standard working week for most industries. The main features of the reduction of hours from 48 to 40 per week are summarized below. In considering such changes it must be remembered that even within individual States the authority to alter conditions of labour is divided between Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and the various legislatures, and that the State legislation does not apply to employees covered by awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

2. **The 44-hour Week.**—No permanent reduction to a 44-hour week was effected until 1925 although temporary reductions had been achieved earlier. In 1920 the New South Wales legislature granted a 44-hour week to most industries, but in the following year this provision was withdrawn. Also in 1920 the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (Higgins *J.*), after inquiry, granted a 44-hour week to Timber Workers, and, in the following year extended the same privilege to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. In 1921, however, a reconstituted Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration unanimously rejected applications by five trade unions for the lower standard week and reintroduced the 48-hour week in the case of the two above-mentioned unions then working 44 hours. During 1924 the Queensland Parliament passed legislation to operate from 1st July, 1925, granting the 44-hour standard week to employees whose conditions of work were regulated by awards and agreements in that State. Similar legislative action in New South Wales led to the re-introduction of the 44-hour week in that State as from 4th January, 1926.

In 1927 after an exhaustive inquiry the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration granted a 44-hour week to the Amalgamated Engineering Union and intimated that this reduction in standard hours of work would be extended to industries operating under conditions similar to those in the engineering industry. Applications for the shorter hours by other Unions were, however, treated individually, the nature of the industry, the problem of production, the financial status and the amount of foreign competition being fully investigated. The economic depression delayed the extension of the standard 44-hour week until the subsequent improvement in economic conditions made possible its general extension to employees under Commonwealth awards.

In States other than New South Wales and Queensland no legislation was passed to reduce the standard hours of work so that, for employees not covered by Commonwealth awards, the change had to be effected by decisions of the appropriate industrial tribunals. In these cases the date on which the reduction to 44 hours was implemented depended on the decision of the tribunals in particular industries, employees in some industries receiving the benefit of the reduced hours years ahead of those in others. In these States the change to the shorter week extended over the years from 1926 to 1941.

3. **The 40-hour Week.**—Soon after the cessation of hostilities in the 1939-45 War applications were made to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the introduction of a 40-hour week, and the hearing by the Court commenced in October, 1945. Before the Court gave its decision the New South Wales Parliament passed legislation granting a 40-hour week, operative from 1st July, 1947, to industries and trades regulated by State awards and agreements and in Queensland similar legislation which provided for the 40-hour week in that State to become operative from 1st January, 1948, was introduced in Parliament.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in its judgment on 8th September, 1947, granted the reduction to the 40-hour week from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in January, 1948. The Queensland Act was passed, and was proclaimed on 10th October, 1947. On 27th October, 1947, the South Australian Industrial Court after hearing applications by unions approved the incorporation of the 40-hour standard week in awards of that State. The Court of Arbitration of Western Australia on 6th November, 1947, granted the 40-hour week to employees under its jurisdiction from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in January, 1948.

In Victoria and Tasmania the Wages Boards met and also incorporated the shorter working week in their determinations so that from the beginning of 1948 practically all employees in Australia whose conditions of labour were regulated by industrial authorities had the advantages of a standard working week of 40 hours or less.

#### § 4. The Basic Wage and Child Endowment in Australia.

1. **The Basic Wage.**—(i) *General.*—The “basic” wage is determined in Australia by industrial tribunals operating under Commonwealth and State Arbitration Acts. In the industrial legislation of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, provision is made for the tribunals appointed under the Acts to determine the basic rates of wage to be paid to adult unskilled workers. In Tasmania provision for the declaration of a basic rate of wage is not included in the industrial Acts in force. The Wages Board system operates in this State, and each Wages Board determines the rate of wage to be paid to the unskilled worker when the determination for an industry or calling is under review. In Victoria, however, while the same Wages Board system exists, the Factories Act obliges Wages Boards to adopt the same rates as those determined by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for similar industries.

As the power of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration is limited by the Commonwealth Constitution to the settlement, by conciliation and arbitration, of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State, no similar provision is to be found in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. In practice, the Court does declare a Commonwealth basic wage and uses the wage so declared as a basis for all awards made by it in the exercise of its jurisdiction, except in the case of awards made for Whyalla and Iron Knob, where the basis of awards has, since 1947, been the South Australian “living” wage plus 5s. That is, upon a new basic wage being declared, the awards made in the settlement of all interstate industrial disputes are re-opened and amended accordingly.



(ii) *Acts in Force*.—The acts in force at the end of 1950 providing for the determination of a "basic" wage are listed below :—

- (a) Commonwealth—Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1950\*.
- (b) New South Wales—Industrial Arbitration Act 1940-1950.
- (c) Victoria—Factories and Shops Act 1928-1950.
- (d) Queensland—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1932-1948.
- (e) South Australia—The Industrial Code 1920-1950.
- (f) Western Australia—Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1950.

2. **The Commonwealth Basic Wage.**—(i) *General*.—The doctrine of a basic wage was propounded as far back as 1890 by Sir Samuel Griffith, Premier of Queensland, and the same principle was enunciated in the New South Wales Arbitration Court in somewhat similar terms by Mr. Justice Heydon in 1905. In spite of these pronouncements, however, and of the fact that wage-fixing tribunals had been in operation as early as 1896 (in the State of Victoria), it was not until the year 1907 that the first basic wage, as such, was declared by a Court in Australia. This declaration was made by Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and is popularly known as the "Harvester Judgment" by reason of its having been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works.† The rate declared in this case was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, the amount considered reasonable for "a family of about five",‡ and was generally referred to as the "Harvester" wage. According to a rough allocation by the Judge, the constituent parts of this amount were £1 5s. 5d. for food, 7s. for rent, and 9s. 7d. for all other expenditure.

The judgment was delivered on 8th November, 1907, in the matter of the application of H. V. McKay for an Order in terms of Section 2 (d) of the Excise Tariff Act 1906. The Commonwealth Parliament had by this Act imposed certain excise duties on agricultural implements, but provided that the Act should not apply to goods manufactured in Australia "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared by the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to be fair and reasonable". The President discussed at length the meaning of "fair and reasonable", and stated: "These remarks would not be made if the Legislature had defined the general principles on which I am to determine whether wages are fair and reasonable or the reverse. . . . The provision for fair and reasonable remuneration is obviously designed for the benefit of the employees in the industry; and it must be meant to secure to them something which they cannot get by the ordinary system of individual bargaining with employers. . . . The standard must therefore be something else; and I cannot think of any other standard appropriate than 'the normal needs of the average employee regarded as a human being living

\* See limitations mentioned in second paragraph of (i) above.

† 2 C.A.R., p. 1.

‡ The average number of dependent children per family was apparently regarded by the Court as about three, although statistical information available at the time did not permit of exact figures being ascertained. The 1911 Census disclosed, however, that the average issue of husbands aged 35-39 in the wage and salary earning group (excluding unemployed) was 3.00 children of all ages, and some such figure was probably in the mind of the Court. The only figures available from the 1921 Census for dependent children under 14 years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) were—per male householder, 1.55, and an estimate per adult male of 1.0. The average numbers of dependent children under sixteen years for the wage and salary earning group (including unemployed) at the 1933 Census were as follows—per adult married male, 1.45, and per adult male, 0.91. The following are the estimated numbers of dependent children under fourteen years for the same group—per adult married male, 1.27, and per adult male, 0.80. See however, page 79 for the Court's interpretation in the 1940 Basic Wage Inquiry of the real basis of this wage.

in a civilized community'". This may therefore be taken as the original criterion adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the fixation of its "basic" wage.

The President in his judgment stated: "My hesitation has been chiefly between 7s. and 7s. 6d.; but I put the minimum at 7s. as I do not think that I could refuse to declare an employer's remuneration to be fair and reasonable if I find him paying 7s. per day".

The "Harvester" basic rate was adopted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for incorporation in its awards and practically the same rates continued until the year 1913, when the Court took cognizance of the retail price index-numbers, covering food and groceries and rent of all houses ("A" series) for the 30 more important towns of the Commonwealth, which had been published by the Commonwealth Statistician for the first time in the preceding year. These index-numbers had been taken back to 1901, with the year 1911 as base, and disclosed not only considerable percentage increases since 1907, but also large disparities in the relative purchasing power of money in the various towns. The basic rates for towns were thereafter fixed on their respective index-numbers, taking the index-number 875 for Melbourne for the year 1907 as being equivalent to 42s. per week, or the base of the index (1,000) as being equivalent to 48s. per week. Exceptions were made in the case of many country towns, where certain "loadings" were applied to counterbalance the lower index-numbers due to cheaper rentals.†

In 1922 an amount known as the "Powers' 3s."‡ was added as a general "loading" to the weekly wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. In the same year the system was instituted of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage to accord with variations in purchasing power as disclosed by the "A" series retail price index-numbers, and of basing the adjustments on the index-number for the quarter in place of that for the previous calendar year or the year ended the preceding quarter.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that any alteration of the "basic" wage or the principles on which it is computed, or any variation or interpretation of any award where the variation or interpretation would result in any such alteration, shall have no force or effect unless it is considered by a Court constituted by the Chief Judge and not less than two other Judges, and must be approved by a majority of the members of the Court. By a judgment of the High Court on the 21st April, 1933, the "basic" wage is taken to mean for the foregoing purpose, not only the "Harvester" wage, but any "loadings" forming part of the primary wage of an unskilled labourer (the wage payable for skilled labour being assessed on the basis of that primary wage). A "loading" is defined as an addition to the "basic" wage as compensation for some peculiar condition of labour or environment, and not by way of "margin for skill."

The adequacy or otherwise of the "Harvester" standard was the subject of much discussion during the period of its operation, the author of the judgment himself urging on several occasions the need for its review. The abnormal conditions during and for some time after the 1914-18 War hindered such a review, which was regarded as less urgent by reason of the

\* The term "minimum" wage, on the other hand, is used to express the lowest rate of wage payable in a particular industry or occupation, and is either equal to or greater than the "basic" wage.

† As these indexes covered only about 60 per cent. of household expenditure, a low index due to low rentals would wrongly presume low costs in the remaining uninvestigated 40 per cent. of household expenditure and *vice versa*.

‡ Awarded by Mr. Justice Powers in the Gas Workers' Case (16 C.A.R., p. 32).

fact that wages throughout Australia were being automatically adjusted to changes in retail prices. A Royal Commission, however, was appointed in 1919 to assess a basic wage, but although its recommendations were not carried out (owing mainly to the considerable advance the amounts recommended represented over current rates and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates), the two Reports of the Commission of 1920 and 1921 comprise a most valuable contribution on the subject of the basic wage in Australia, and a *résumé* of its findings is given on page 106.

No change was made in the method of fixation and adjustment of the basic wage until the onset of the depression, which began to be felt severely during 1930. Applications were then made to the Court by employers for some greater measure of reduction of wages than that afforded by the automatic adjustments to falling retail prices. An account of the proceedings which resulted in the Court reducing all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent. from the 1st February, 1931, is given in Labour Report No. 23, page 74. Reference is also made to the Court's refusal in June, 1932, and May, 1933, to remove this special reduction.\*

(ii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1934.*—The "Harvester" standard, adjusted to retail price variations, continued as the theoretical basis of the wage of the Commonwealth Court until 30th April, 1934, when it was superseded by a judgment delivered on 17th April, 1934, operative from 1st May, 1934,† full particulars of which appear in earlier issues of this Report (*see* No. 26, page 76). The basic wage declared on this occasion (subsequently referred to as the "Needs Basic Wage, 1934") was declared on the basis of the relative "C" Series retail price indexes of the various cities for the December quarter 1933, and the equation to the base of those indexes (Weighted average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 1,000) of a wage of 81s. per week.

The following is a comparison for the capital cities of the basic rates granted by the judgment and those ruling under previous practices of the Court:—

Comparison of Basic Rates awarded for Capital Cities.

City.	Rates being paid prior to 1st May, 1934.(a)		“ Needs ” Rates Awarded 1st May 1934; “ C ” Series.	Increase or Decrease. “ Needs ” Rates.			
	Under “ D ” Series less 10 per cent. “ cut ”.	Under “ A ” Series (Full).		Over “ D ” Series.		Over “ A ” Series.	
				Full.	Less 10 per cent. “ cut ”.	Full.	Less 10 per cent. “ cut ”.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney .. .. .	66 11	72 0	67 0	-7 4	+0 1	-5 0	+2 2
Melbourne .. .	63 4	67 6	64 0	-6 4	+0 8	-3 6	+3 3
Brisbane .. .	59 4	62 0	61 0	-4 11	+1 8	-1 0	+5 2
Adelaide .. .	60 2	63 0	64 0	-2 10	+3 10	+1 0	+7 4
Perth .. .. .	59 3	64 0	66 0	+0 2	+6 9	+2 0	+8 5
Hobart .. .. .	64 10	70 0	67 0	-5 0	+2 2	-3 0	+4 0
Six Capitals ..	63 9	68 0	65 0	-5 10	+1 3	-3 0	+3 10

(a) Calculated to nearest 6d., and including "Powers' 3s." or its equivalent.

NOTE.—For explanation of the "A", "C" and "D" series *see* pp. 37 to 39 of this Report.

\* 30 C.A.R., p. 1; 31 C.A.R., p. 305.

† 33 C.A.R. p. 144.

The 10 per cent. special reduction in wages referred to above ceased to operate upon the introduction of the new rates, and the basis of the periodical adjustments to retail price variations was transferred from the "A" and the "D" series to the "C" series of index-numbers. The latter series covers Food and Groceries; Rent of 4 and 5-roomed Houses; Clothing; Fuel; Light; Household Utensils; Household Drapery; Fares; and other Miscellaneous household requirements. The base of the table (1,000) was taken by the Court as equal to 81s. per week. This gave the above rates in Column 4 for the capital cities, on the basis of their respective index-numbers. In effect the new rate for the six capital cities was the same as that previously paid under the "A" series, without the "Powers" 3s., and without the 10 per cent. reduction. Certain towns gained and others lost in comparison with rates under the "A" series, owing to the different relationship of towns under the "A" and the "C" series.

In view, however, of the fact that the vast majority of workers affected were being paid the rates shown in Column 2 under the "D" Series Retail Price Index (which rates allowed for the 10 per cent. "cut" in wages), the differences compared with the *full* basic wages standard established by the Court from 1st May, 1934, by means of this series were as shown in Column 5. The *full* rates under this series may be obtained by adding one-ninth to the rates in Column 2.

(iii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937.*—In May, 1937, the Commonwealth Court heard an application by the combined Unions for an increase in the basic wage. The Unions asked that the equivalent of the base (1,000) of the "C" series index be increased from 81s. to 93s., which on current index-numbers would have represented an average increase of about 10s. per week. The hearing extended from 10th May to 4th June, 1937, and the Court delivered judgment on 23rd June.\* The chief features of the judgment were:

(a) Various amounts were added to the basic wage not as an integral, and therefore adjustable, part of that wage, but as "loadings" on the rates that would have been payable under the "shilling table" as determined by the 1934 judgment. It was in this judgment that the Court designated its basic wage of 1934 as the "needs" portion of the total resultant basic wage, by which name it has since been generally known. The "loadings" and resultant "total basic wages" for the six capital cities were as follows:—

City.	"Needs" Basic Wage.		"Loading."		Total Basic Wage.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sydney .. .. .	72	0	6	0	78	0
Melbourne .. .. .	69	0	6	0	75	0
Brisbane .. .. .	68	0	6	0	74	0
Adelaide .. .. .	68	0 (a)	4	0	72	0
Perth .. .. .	70	0 (a)	4	0	74	0
Hobart .. .. .	70	0 (b)	4	0	74	0
Six Capitals .. .. .	70	0	5	0	75	0

(a) An additional 1s. was actually being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.  
 (b) 1s. less was being paid under the "2s. minimum adjustment" provision.

The above were not to apply to railway employees, to whom the Court granted "loadings" of 5s. in New South Wales and Victoria, and 3s. in South Australia and Tasmania. Workers in the provincial towns were to receive

"loadings"—6s. in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland; and 4s. in South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania. Wages based on "combination" index-numbers covering four, five or six capital cities, or the 30 towns, would receive a "loading" of 5s. per week. The maritime workers were granted a "loading" of 21s. 6d. per month, and the pastoral workers received increases proportionate to the increase of the flat basic rate, from 68s. to 77s. in respect of the basis of piece-work rates, and of 3s. per week for station hands.

The "loadings" came into operation in two instalments, namely, from the beginning of the first pay-periods commencing in July and October, 1937.

The maritime, pastoral and gas workers' increases were to become fully operative in the first pay period commencing in July.

(b) The former proviso that no adjustment of wages should take place unless the amount of variation reached at least 2s. was rescinded in favour of minimum variations of 1s. per week.

(c) The general policy laid down in the previous judgment in regard to rates for country towns was retained, with the exception that the rates for Geelong and Warrnambool were made the same as those for Melbourne.

(d) The basis of the adjustment of wages in accordance with the variations shown by retail price index-numbers was transferred from the "C" series to a special "Court" series based upon the "C" series, for an explanation of which see page 39.

(e) Female and junior rates were left for adjustment by individual judges when dealing with specific awards.

The main parts of the judgment were reprinted in earlier issues of the Labour Report (*See* No. 28, p. 77).

(iv) "*Lag*" in *Adjustments*.—The Commonwealth Court on 19th December, 1939, heard an application by the unions that the date of adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with the variations in the "Court" Series of index-numbers be brought nearer to the period upon which the variation was based. In a judgment delivered on the same day, the Court directed that such adjustments be made one month earlier. The effect, therefore, was to make future adjustments operative from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence in a February, a May, an August or a November.

(v) *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1940.—On 5th August, 1940, the Full Court commenced the hearing of an application by the combined unions for an increase in the existing basic wage by raising the value of 1,000 (the base of the "C" series index upon which the "Court" series are based) from 81s. to 100s. per week, and the abolition of the existing "Prosperity" loadings, which would be regarded as incorporated in the new rate mentioned. The hearing was interrupted for a period of ten weeks owing to the serious illness of the Chief Judge (The Hon. Sir George S. Beeby) but was completed on 28th November, 1940. Judgment was delivered on 7th February, 1941, wherein the Court unanimously refused to grant any increase, and decided that the application should not be dismissed but stood over for further consideration after 30th June, 1941. The application was refused mainly owing to the uncertainty of the economic outlook under existing war conditions.\*

\* 44 C.A.R., p. 41.

In regard to the popular idea that the basic wage of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration was identified with a specific family unit, the Chief Judge made the following statements to clarify the position: "The Court has always conceded that the 'needs' of an average family should be kept in mind in fixing a basic wage. But it has never as the result of its own inquiry specifically declared what is an average family or what is the cost of a regimen of food, clothing, shelter and miscellaneous items necessary to maintain it in frugal comfort, or that a basic wage should give effect to any such finding. In the end economic possibilities have always been the determining factor . . . . What should be sought is the independent ascertainment and prescription of the highest basic wage that can be sustained by the total of industry in all its primary, secondary and ancillary forms. That, no doubt, is the object, but the adoption of something like the real average family as the unit to be provided for is not without its use in the attainment of that object. There is no clear means of measuring the general wage-paying capacity of the total industry of a country. All that can be done is to approximate, and one of the methods of approximation is to find out the actual wage upon which well-situated labourers are at the time maintaining the average family unit. We may be pardoned for saying that Mr. Justice Higgins very wisely used this criterion in the *Harvester case*.\* Moreover if the average-sized families of such well-situated labourers have become accustomed to enjoy, and do actually enjoy, a certain standard of living in our community, it may reasonably be assumed that such a standard for all labourers is probably not beyond the capacity of industry in general to provide. Therefore, in determining the amount of a living or basic wage there is sound economic warranty for the ascertainment of the real average family unit and of the cost of providing something like the standard which such families of well-employed labourers have already reached. But obviously, if the real average family unit is departed from, or a standard is sought for the likely maintenance of which experience gives no reason to hope, then an unrealizable wage-level may be ordained. . . . It may be that in the light of past experience the Court should conduct a specific inquiry as to the cost of living of an average family, but under war conditions, such an inquiry would be futile. More than ever before wage fixation is controlled by the economic outlook."

The Chief Judge further stated, "I was impressed by the new evidence and argument as to the inadequacy of the earnings of the lower paid wage-earners with families. On our accepted standards of living, looking at it from the needs point of view only, I regard the present basic wage as adequate for a family unit of three persons, but think it offers only a meagre existence for a family unit of four. When the unit gets beyond four hardship is often experienced." He suggested that the more logical system would be to grade the basic wage according to family responsibilities and that, notwithstanding the increase in aggregate wages, the benefits resulting from a reapportionment of national income to increase the wages of those with more than one dependent child would more than offset the inflationary tendency of provision for a comprehensive scheme of child endowment, and that if a scheme of this nature were established, as recently announced by the Commonwealth Government†, future fixations of the basic wage would be greatly simplified. The other two Judges

\* See page 74 for details.

† Legislation covering a scheme which became operative on 1st July, 1941, was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament on 3rd April, 1941—see page 108 for details.

(O'Mara J., and Piper J.) in separate judgments agreed with that of the Chief Judge, particularly in regard to the need for a child endowment scheme as a solution of the main problem.

(vi) "*Interim*" *Basic Wage Inquiry*, 1946.—The Court, on 25th November, 1946, commenced the hearing of this case as the result of (a) an application made on 30th October, 1946 (during the course of the Standard Hours Case) by the Attorney-General for the Commonwealth for the restoration to the Full Court List of certain adjourned 1940 basic wage applications (see (v) above); (b) a number of fresh cases which had come to the Court since 1941 and (c) an application by the Australasian Council of Trade Unions on behalf of the unions for an "interim" basic wage declaration.

The Court had the advantage of considering not only the evidence tendered and submissions made during the time allotted for that purpose, but also a considerable body of evidence relevant to the basic wage question tendered as part of the Standard Hours Case, and the cross-examination and submissions thereon forming part of that case. The case was in fact interposed during the hearing of the Standard Hours Case on the assurance of the Court that it would be dealt with immediately and taken through to finality in the shortest possible time, to which end procedure was laid down designed to cope with the urgency of the situation while at the same time allowing parties ample time to present their cases.

The case ended on 10th December, 1946 and judgment was delivered on 13th December, 1946 whereby an increase of 7s. per week was granted in the "needs" portion of the basic wage then current and based on the weighted average "Court" index-number for the Six Capital Cities (as a whole) for the September quarter, 1946. This had the effect of raising the base (1923-27) index-number of the "Court" Series Index from 81.0 to 87.0, the corresponding "needs" basic wage from 81s. to 87s. per week, and the current rate for the Six Capital Cities from 93s. to 100s. per week. All "loadings" on the basic wage were retained at their existing amounts until otherwise ordered by the Court.

The immediate monetary effect was to increase by 7s. per week the basic wage in each of the capital cities (with the exception of Hobart, where the increase was 6s.), and in most of the other towns or combinations of towns—the position of the index-number for a town in the new Automatic Adjustment Scale (on the new base rate of 87s.) determining whether the increase was 7s. or 6s.

The new "Court" index-numbers were obtained by multiplying the "C" Series retail price index-numbers (1923-27 Base = 1,000) by the factor 0.087, and taking the result to the first decimal place. They were designated "Court Index (Second Series)", to distinguish them from the "Court Index (First Series)", similarly derived by using the factor 0.081 (see p. 39, vii.). For the purpose of obtaining a continuous "price-index", however, the "First Series" may be converted to the "Second Series" by multiplying the indexes of the former by 1.0741, and the "Second Series" to the "First Series" by multiplying the latter indexes by 0.931.

The incorporation of this increase in the "Court" Series had the advantage of not vitiating in any way the existing adjustment scales in awards, etc., since the higher value allotted by the Court to the "C" Series indexes automatically carried the "Court" index-numbers for all towns, etc. into



the appropriate higher-value index-number divisions of the scales, whether the rates were prescribed on a yearly, half-yearly, monthly, weekly, hourly or other basis.

The foregoing increases were in respect of adult males, but as regards females and juveniles, it was provided that the relative rates for males and females as provided in existing awards, etc. of the Court should continue to apply. It was also provided that in the case of females, whose remuneration was governed by any decision of the Women's Employment Board (*see* p. 85 *et seq.*) or by the National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations no alteration of stated rates would ensue by any order pursuant to this judgment. However those rates expressed as a stipulated percentage of the adult male rate were affected.

The new rates were expressed to become operative for the bulk of those affected as from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in the month of December, 1946 but as to certain employees, for instance, casual workers such as waterside workers and maritime employees, the order was to operate from the 1st day of December, 1946. It was also stated in the judgment that any party to an award not then before the Court was at liberty to file an application for variation of that award and such application would be immediately placed before the Court for determination.

(viii) *Basic Wage Inquiry, 1949-50.*—This case really finalized the case begun in 1940 and continued in 1946 (*see above*). After certain procedural matters had been disposed of in February, 1949, and later dates, the general hearing of the Unions' claims was commenced on 17th May, 1949. Evidence was completed on 22nd August, 1950, and the three judges (Kelly, *C.J.*, Foster and Dunphy, *J.J.*) delivered separate judgments on 12th October, 1950.

In 1946 the Chief Judge ruled that the claim for an increase in the basic wage should be heard concurrently with the "40 Hour Week" claims then before the Court. The Unions, however, objected to this course being followed, and, on appeal to the High Court, that Court in March, 1947, gave a decision which obliged the Arbitration Court to proceed with the "Hours" case to its conclusion without the interpolation of the contemporaneous hearing of the Basic Wage case.\*

In the judgments of 12th October, 1950, which were in the nature of general declarations, a majority of the Court (Foster and Dunphy, *J.J.*) was of the opinion that the basic wage for adult males should be increased by £1 per week, and that for adult females should be 75 per cent. of the adult male rate. Kelly, *C.J.*, dissenting, considered that no increase either in the male or female wage was justified.

On 24th October, 1950, and 23rd November, 1950, the Court made further declarations regarding the "Prosperity Loading" of 1937 (*see* page 77) which was being paid at rates between 3s. and 6s. per week according to localities, etc., and the future basis of quarterly adjustments. The "Prosperity Loading" was standardized at a uniform rate of 5s. per week for all towns and was declared to be an adjustable part of the basic wage. The Court also declared that the "War Loading" was not part of the basic wage.

With regard to other loadings the Court on 17th November, 1950, proceeded to examine the individual awards in the claims before it, for the purpose of determining to what extent such loadings formed part of the basic wage. The members of the Court, earlier in the hearing, had given interim

\* *Printing Industry Employees Union of Australia v. Victorian Chamber of Manufactures*, 73 C.L.R., p. 259.



opinions for the guidance of the parties as to the meaning of the definition of "basic wage" in section 25 of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the majority view being that it would be necessary to examine each award and to ascertain either from the award itself or other sources whether loading additions were part of the basic wage or not. It should be noted that any "loading" declared to be part of the basic wage ceased to be paid as a separate entity, but apart from the special case of the Australian Capital Territory (*see* page 90) there were very few loadings which fell within this category.

The first payment of the new rates was expressed to operate from the beginning of the first pay period in December, 1950, by way of a flat-rate addition of £1 5s. in all cases to the "needs" rate (2nd Series) on the indexes of September quarter, 1950. This £1 5s. comprised the £1 addition announced on 12th October, 1950, and the "Prosperity Loading" (first instituted in 1937) now standardized at 5s. in all relevant cases.

The Court decided to create a new Court Series Index for automatic variation of the new basic wage in accordance with future variations in retail prices. The first automatic quarterly adjustment of the new basic wage on this basis became operative from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in February, 1951, on the basis of the index numbers for the December quarter, 1950.

The basic wage rate for the Six Capital Cities (Weighted Average) arrived at by the Court after applying the foregoing declarations was £8 2s., comprising £6 17s. "needs" (2nd Series) plus 5s. uniform "Prosperity Loading" plus the £1 addition. For the purpose of determining the corresponding rates to be paid in respect of individual cities and towns, and combinations thereof, and their future automatic adjustment, this new rate of £8 2s. was equated to the "C" Series retail price index-number 1572 for the Six Capital Cities (Weighted Average) for September quarter, 1950. From this was derived the new "Court" Index—in future to be known as the "Court" Index (Third Series)—with 103.0 equated to 1000 in the "C" Series Index. The new adjustment scale appears on page 40 of this report.

The basic wage rates operative in November, 1950, are shown below in comparison with those operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in December, 1950:—

Capital City.	Rates Operative in November, 1950.			Total Rate Operative in December, 1950.(a)	Increase (Col. 5 less Col. 4).
	"Needs" Rate.	"Prosperity" Loading.	Total.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sydney .. ..	140 0	6 0	146 0	165 0	19 0
Melbourne .. ..	137 0	6 0	143 0	162 0	19 0
Brisbane .. ..	129 0	6 0	135 0	154 0	19 0
Adelaide .. ..	133 0	4 0	137 0	158 0	21 0
Perth .. ..	135 0	4 0	139 0	160 0	21 0
Hobart .. ..	135 0	4 0	139 0	160 0	21 0
Six Capitals ..	137 0	5 0	142 0	162 0	20 0

(a) Comprising "Needs" Rate shown in column (2) plus 20s. addition of 12th October, 1950, and uniform "Prosperity Loading" of 5s.

(viii) *Rates Operative, Principal Towns.*—The “basic” wage rates of the Commonwealth Court for adult males and females, operative in the principal towns of Australia as from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in November, 1951, are shown in the following table:—

Commonwealth Basic Wage : Weekly Rates. (a)

City or Town.	Rate of Wage.		City or Town.	Rate of Wage.	
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
New South Wales—			South Australia—		
Sydney ..	207 0	155 0	Adelaide ..	195 0	146 0
Newcastle (b) ..	207 0	155 0	Whyalla and Iron Knob ..	200 0	150 0
Port Kembla-Wollongong (b) ..	207 0	155 0	Five Towns (c) ..	195 0	146 0
Broken Hill ..	209 0	156 6	Western Australia—		
Five Towns (c) ..	206 0	154 6	Perth ..	197 0	147 6
Victoria—			Kalgoorlie ..	205 0	153 6
Melbourne ...	199 0	149 0	Geraldton ..	206 0	154 6
Geelong (d) ..	199 0	149 0	Five Towns (c) ..	198 0	148 6
Warrnambool (d) ..	199 0	149 0	Tasmania—		
Mildura (d) ..	199 0	149 0	Hobart ..	199 0	149 0
Yallourn (d) ..	205 6	154 0	Launceston ..	201 0	150 6
Five Towns (c) ..	199 0	149 0	Queenstown ..	195 0	146 0
Queensland—			Five Towns (c) ..	199 0	149 0
Brisbane ..	185 0	138 6	Thirty Towns (c) ..	200 0	150 0
Five Towns (c) ..	186 0	139 6	Six Capital Cities (c) ..	200 0	150 0

(a) Operative from first pay period in November, 1951. (b) Based on Sydney. (c) Weighted average. (d) Based on Melbourne.

With the exception of those mentioned above, the rate for provincial towns is 3s. less than that of their capital city.

The rate for adult females is 75 per cent. of the male rate.

A table of Basic Wage Rates from 1923 to 1951 will be found in Section IX. of the Appendix.

**3. Basic Wage Rates for Females.**—(i) *General.*—In its judgment of 17th April, 1934, wherein the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration laid down the basis of its “needs” basic wage for adult males, the Court made the following statement in regard to the female rate:—

“The Court does not think it necessary or desirable, at any rate at the present time, to declare any wage as a basic wage for female employees. Generally speaking they carry no family responsibilities. The minimum wage should, of course, never be too low for the reasonable needs of the employee, but those needs may vary in different industries. In the variations now to be made the proportion in each award of the minimum wage for females to that of males will be preserved.”

The previous practice of the Court was therefore continued whereby each Judge granted such proportion of the male rate as he deemed suited to the nature of the industry and the general circumstances of the case. Generally speaking, this proportion was in the vicinity of 54 per cent. of the male rate, although in some cases the proportion was about 56 per cent.

Until 1942 this continued to be substantially the practice of all Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals and in the main its continuance was then made mandatory by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations which "pegged" as at 10th February, 1942, all rates of remuneration previously prevailing in any employment. The only exceptions allowed were variations to rectify anomalies, variations resultant from hearings pending prior to 10th February, 1942, and "cost of living" variations.

In March, 1942, however, special action was taken to constitute a Women's Employment Board in conjunction with measures to encourage women to undertake, in war-time, work which would normally have been performed by men. This Board was given special jurisdiction to determine terms and conditions of such employment.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and State Industrial Tribunals continued to determine rates of pay, &c., of women engaged in what may broadly be described as "women's work" in the pre-war sense, while the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board (first appointed in March, 1942) was made to cover women engaged during the war in work formerly performed by men or in new work which immediately prior to the outbreak of the present war was not performed in Australia by any person.

In July, 1944, National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations authorized the Commonwealth Arbitration Court to make comprehensive investigations (a) as to whether minimum rates of wage payable to females in industries considered by the Government to be necessary for war purposes are unreasonably low in comparison with minimum rates payable to females in other essential industries, (b) as to whether it is in the national interest, and fair and just, to so increase such rates, and (c) as to the amount of such increases. Determinations could be made for any period specified by the Court but not extending beyond six months after the end of the war. In making such determinations the Court was not bound by Part V. of the National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations, although such regulations applied to the new rates after determination. The objective of the Female Minimum Rates Regulations was to remove unreasonable disparities which were creating justified discontent and impeding the manpower authority in redistributing female labour in vital industries. This review commenced in the Court on 23rd February, 1945, and ended on 23rd March, judgment being reserved.

Judgment was delivered by the Full Court on 4th May, 1945,\* to the effect that, in regard to (a) above, the majority of the Full Court (Piper C.J., O'Mara and Kelly JJ.) found itself unable to declare that the rates in the "referred"† industries were unreasonably low compared with those in the three industries submitted by the Crown and the Union representatives as the standard rates for comparison, namely, those of the Clothing, Rubber and Metal industries, and that there was consequently no necessity to answer question (b). Two Judges (O'Mara and Kelly JJ.) considered that there were no other industries with rates lower than those of the standard industries mentioned above, compared with which the rates in the "referred" industries were unreasonably low, but the Chief Judge refrained from giving any answer to this question as he was not satisfied that if this

\* C.A.R. 54, p. 613.

† Twelve vital industries were "referred" by the Government for consideration.

aspect had been fully investigated during the hearing on the material before the Court the answer would necessarily have been in the negative in the cases of all the "referred" industries. In a minority judgment, Drake-Brockman and Foster *JJ.*, answered (a) and (b) in the affirmative.

Following this negative result, the Government, by National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations (S.R. 1945, No. 139) dated 13th August, 1945, provided in respect of "vital" industries specified by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette* that the remuneration of females employed therein should not be less than 75 per cent. of the corresponding minimum male rate. The validity of this Regulation was challenged in the High Court by Australian Textiles Pty. Ltd., but in a judgment dated 3rd December, 1945, the Court (Starke, *J.*, dissenting) held that the Regulations were a valid exercise of the powers under the *National Security Act* 1939-1943. The rates under this Regulation commenced to operate from 31st August, 1945.

As from 12th October, 1944, the Women's Employment Board was abolished and the Chairman of the Board (A. W. Foster) was made a Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The function of the Board under the Women's Employment Act then devolved upon the Court as constituted by a Judge designated by the Chief Judge. (See S.R. 1944, No. 149.)

The following sub-sections give a brief account of the functions allotted to and of the principles followed by the Women's Employment Board, and a summary of an important judgment delivered by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in 1943 stating the principles followed by the Court in fixing the basic rates payable to female workers and the difference between the rates payable to the women engaged in "women's work" and those payable to the special group of women engaged in "men's work" in war-time under the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board. The judgment also dealt with the question of "anomalies" as between the rates payable to the two classes of women workers.

(ii) *Women's Employment Board.*—The functions of the Women's Employment Board were specified by the Women's Employment Act of 1942.\* The purpose of the Act as expressed in the title was "to encourage and regulate the employment of women for the purpose of aiding the prosecution of the present war". The jurisdiction of the Board was limited to females employed (after 2nd March, 1942) on work usually performed by males or which, immediately prior to the outbreak of the war, was not performed in Australia by any person.

The functions of the Board briefly were to decide what work and what female workers came within its jurisdiction (as defined) and the terms and conditions upon which women might be so employed including hours and special conditions as to safety, welfare and health. The Board was required to fix rates of payment for such women with regard to their efficiency and productivity in relation to that of males engaged in such work and the Regulations provided that payment to females (engaged on "men's work") should be not less than 60 per cent. nor more than 100 per cent. of the male rate.

\* The Board was originally created under regulations under the *National Security Act* 1939-1940, dated 25th March, 1942 (Statutory Rules 1942, No. 146), but owing to the disallowance of such regulations by the Senate on 23rd September, 1942, the Board operated under the Women's Employment Act, No. 55 of 1942, as from 6th October, 1942, which validated all previous decisions, etc., of the first Board (gazetted on 11th June, 1942). The second Board was created on 10th November, 1942.

The Board ceased to function in 1944 but the Women's Employment Regulations continued to operate until 1949, when, by a judgment of the High Court such continuation was declared invalid. A summary of the activities of the Board during its period of operation was given in previous issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 36, page 84).

(iii) *Judgments by Commonwealth Arbitration Court.*—On 24th March, 1943, a case involving determination of general principles as to rates of wage of female employees not within the jurisdiction of the Women's Employment Board was remitted to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by the Minister for Labour and National Service under Regulation 9 of the National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations, particularly as affecting female workers at Government small arms ammunition factories. The rates in these cases were considered by their trade union to be anomalous compared with those awarded by the Women's Employment Board to certain other women employed in those factories. The Court in its Judgment dated 17th June, 1943\*, rejected the contentions of the union (Arms Explosives and Munition Workers Federation of Australia) and enunciated in full the principles followed by the Court in determining female rates of wage within its jurisdiction.

In order to place the matter in perspective in its relation to the basic wage for males, the Court traced the history of the principles on which the basic wage for males was determined from its original declaration by Mr. Justice Higgins in his "Harvester" judgment of 1907 (*see* pp. 74-76 of this Report) and continued—

"Although since 1930, when the 'economic and productivity factor' emerged as the 'dominant factor' in the problem of assessment [of the basic wage of adult male employees], the adequacy of the wage to meet the requirements of any 'specified family unit' has been only a subsidiary consideration, subsidiary that is to say to the question of the capacity of the national production to sustain a particular wage level, it is plain that the Court has not held that its basic wage has been fixed at too low a figure to meet the normal and reasonable needs of a family of husband, wife and at least one child. Nor has its adequacy to that extent been questioned. In this sense it can still be regarded as a family wage, inasmuch as it has been accepted as sufficient at all events to provide 'frugal comfort' for a man, his wife and at least one dependent child. For present purposes it is enough to say that, until a proper investigation demonstrates the contrary to be the case, we cannot but hold that the amount provided is more than sufficient to meet the normal and reasonable requirements of an unmarried worker with no dependants to support out of his earnings. And the same may be said of the living or basic wages determined by authorities functioning under State legislation as appropriate for male employees within their jurisdiction. The method of assessment of wage rates for adult male workers adopted and followed by industrial authorities throughout Australia has been to fix a basic wage portion adequate for the estimated needs of some family group and to add to that some additional payment in recognition of the skill or experience possessed by the worker or the special conditions met with in his particular occupation. The basic wage portion has had no reference to work value; it has been assessed in accordance with needs and it

\* 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

has never been either held or suggested to be inadequate to meet the normal and reasonable needs not only of the worker himself but also of his wife and at least one dependent child."

The Court in its judgment then set out decisions arrived at by various Commonwealth and State Courts since 1912 when the Commonwealth Court first dealt directly with the problem of women's wages. Mr. Justice Higgins dealt with the case, and stated "I fixed the minimum in 1907 of 7s. per day by finding the sum which would meet the normal needs of an average employee, one of his normal needs being the need for domestic life. If he has a wife and children, he is under an obligation—even a legal obligation—to maintain them. How is such a minimum applicable to the case of a woman . . . ? She is not, unless perhaps in very exceptional circumstances, under any such obligation. The minimum cannot be based on exceptional cases."

In respect of the "minimum rate" enjoined by the Commonwealth Arbitration Act, he held that "Nothing is clearer than that the minimum rate referred to in Section 40 means the minimum rate for a class of workers, those who do work of a certain character. If blacksmiths are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that blacksmiths are usually men. If fruit-pickers are the class of workers, the minimum rate must be such as recognizes that, up to the present at least, most of the pickers are men (although women have been usually paid less), and that men and women are fairly in competition as to that class of work. If milliners are the class of workers, the minimum rate must, I think, be such as recognizes that all or nearly all milliners are women, and that men are not usually in competition with them."\*

In concluding its review the Court stated "the fixation of the basic wage for women at amounts below 60 per cent. of that fixed for men has been general in the awards and determinations of this Court and other industrial authorities of Australia."

The Court stated its conclusions and laid down general principles in the following words:—

"It is beyond question that the general rule adopted and followed by the Australian industrial authorities in the assessment of wages for adult women workers, engaged upon work suitable for women in which they cannot fairly be said to be in competition with men for employment, has been and still is to fix a foundational amount, calculated with reference to the needs of a single woman who has to pay for her board and lodging, has to maintain herself out of her earnings, but has no dependants to support; and to add to this foundational or basic amount such marginal amounts as may be appropriate in recognition of the particular skill or experience of the particular workers in question or as compensation for the particular conditions which they encounter in their occupations . . . .

"Just as the wages for male workers are assessed by adopting first a foundational wage—the basic wage—and adding to it marginal amounts fixed according to the relative skill and experience of particular workers or groups of workers, or to the special conditions they encounter, so too are women's wages, for work suitable to them in which they will not be disadvantaged by male competition, fixed by adding to a

foundational or basic amount analogous margins. But in each case the foundational wage is in principle and justice different. The man's basic wage is more than sufficient for his personal needs; it purports to provide him with enough to support some family. The woman's, on the other hand, purports to be enough for her to maintain herself only. No allowance is made for the support of any dependants. The man's wage has been measured by this Court with reference to the dominating factor of the productive capacity of industry to sustain it and with due regard consequently to what its application in industry will mean, to the marginal structure which rises above it, and to the consequent wages which will in accordance with established rules and practice be paid to women and to minors.

"In the course of the hearing the Chief Judge drew attention to the necessity which would occur, if women's rates were to be assessed on the basis that relative efficiency and productivity (as between men and women) were to constitute the dominant factor, for a review of the principles in accordance with which the basic wage has been determined. That this necessity would arise must be apparent. For the basic wage for adult males has been fixed at as high an amount as the Court has thought practicable in all the circumstances of the case, including the circumstances of the existing proportionate levels of wages for women and minors. The share of men workers in the fruits of production will need to be reduced if women are to participate therein on an equal footing, or on a better footing generally than that to which they have hitherto been held to be entitled.

"It is desirable that we should indicate as clearly as possible the effect of the conclusions to which the review of the principles of wage assessment we have made has led us. It is that, so long as the foundational or basic wage for women is assessed according to a standard different from that which is the basis of the foundational or basic wage—a family wage—for men, the Court will not, in the exercise of its function of adjudicating between opposing interests, raise the general level of women's minimum wages in occupations suitable for women, and in which they do not encounter considerable competition from men, according to a comparison of their efficiency and productivity with the efficiency and productivity of men doing substantially similar work. To do so would at once depress the relative standard of living of the family as a group, and of its individual members, as compared with that of the typical single woman wage-earner."\*

In December, 1943,† *Drake-Brockman, J.* of this Court, in dealing with women employees in the Clothing (Dressmaking and Tailoring Sections) and Rubber industries, awarded for the duration of the war and for six months thereafter as a "flat rate" for the industry 75 per cent. of the "needs" basic wage, plus the "prosperity" and "industry" loadings ordinarily applicable. The reason for this action was (in the words of the judgment) as follows: "it was also common ground (between all the parties) that wastage of the employees in the industry during the last three years had been exceptionally heavy and that it was essential that some means should be found to attract women to the industry and thereafter to retain them for some reasonable period of time after they had been trained."

\* 50 C.A.R., p. 191.

† 51 C.A.R., pp. 632 and 648.



In July, 1944, the National Security (Female Minimum Wage) Regulations extended the discretion of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in fixing female minimum wage rates in "vital" industries in war-time as briefly described on page 84.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 10 of 1947 (see Labour Report No. 37, p. 50) provided amongst other things that "a Conciliation Commissioner shall not be empowered to make an order or award altering . . . (d) the minimum rate of remuneration for adult females in an industry." As the result of doubts which arose as to the powers of the Commissioners to "fix" a basic wage, the matter came before the Full Court of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for clarification at the instance of several trade unions. Judgment was delivered on 27th July, 1948, and it was held that Conciliation Commissioners had jurisdiction to fix the female rates in question under the provisions of the Act, but it was also held that the provision referred only to the basic element in any prescribed female rates. Where, however, such a prescribed rate did not specifically fix or disclose the basic wage element, the appropriate Conciliation Commissioner had to fix the rate, and when such rate had been fixed its alteration became a matter for the Court. In view of the fact that there were fifteen Commissioners whose views might differ as to the element of the rates of pay of adult females which could be ascribed to an adult female basic wage analogous to the basic wage for adult males, the Government in December, 1948, passed an Act (No. 77 of 1948) further amending the above-mentioned Act to authorize the Court—and the Court alone—to fix the basic rate by providing that "a Conciliation Commissioner shall not be empowered to make an order or award . . . (d) determining or altering the minimum rate of remuneration for adult females in an industry."

A further amending Act, No. 2 of 1949, empowered the Court to determine or alter a "basic wage for adult females" which was defined as "that wage, or that part of a wage, which is just and reasonable for an adult female, without regard to any circumstance pertaining to the work upon which, or the industry in which, she is employed."

At the end of the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (see page 81) the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration by a majority decision fixed a new basic weekly wage for adult females at 75 per cent. of the corresponding male rate operative from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in December, 1950.

For the new rates payable to adult females employed under State awards see pages 98-105.

4. **Australian Territories.**—(i) *Australian Capital Territory.*—Prior to 1922 the lowest rate payable to an unskilled labourer was not defined as a basic wage, as all wages were paid under the authority of the Federal Capital Commission as a lump sum for the particular occupation in which the worker was employed. But in 1922 an Industrial Board commenced to operate under a local Ordinance (see p. 54).

The basic wage adopted by the Industrial Board in its first determination, operating from 1st May, 1922, was 85s. per week, which reached 100s. per week from 10th October, 1926, and fell to 83s. 4d. from 25th July, 1931—the latter amount allowing for the deduction of 16½ per cent. under the Financial Emergency Act then operating.



From 21st October, 1932, the Board adopted as a basic wage the amount of 85s. per week, which was the "Harvester" equivalent (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s.") of the "A" series retail price index-number (1707) for Canberra for the March quarter, 1932, and from two successive dates, 2nd August, 1934, and 1st August, 1935, the amounts declared were also on the same basis.

From 1st July, 1936, however, the Board adopted the "Harvester" equivalent of the Canberra "A" series index-number (1719) for the March quarter, 1936, namely 85s. 6d. (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), and at the same time provided for the quarterly adjustment of this wage in accordance with the variations of the "A" series index-numbers for Canberra by means of a special Automatic Adjustment Scale providing for movements in graduations of 1s. per week.

From 10th October, 1941, the Board decided to continue the "Harvester" basis of the wage (inclusive of the "Powers' 3s."), which then had reached 92s. 6d., also to transfer the basis of adjustment from the "A" series to the "C" series index by means of the Commonwealth Court's "C" series Automatic Adjustment Scale ("Shilling" Scale). At the same time the Board added the amount of 3s. per week to the wage in respect of cost of living variations over the war period not registered by the less comprehensive "A" series index, thus making the total basic wage 95s. 6d. per week. The new basis of adjustment was effected by relating the amount of 95s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1037) for the June quarter, 1941 and the index-number division 1031-1043 of the Court's Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923-27 = 81s.), thus providing for the adjustment only of that portion of the total basic wage equivalent to the "needs" portion of the basic wage of the Court.

From 1st December, 1946, a further amount of 7s. per week was added to the above wage, representing the addition to its basic wage, by the Commonwealth Arbitration Court in its "Interim" basic wage judgment of 13th December, 1946. At the same time the basis of adjustment was transferred to the new Adjustment Scale (Base: 1923-27 = 87s.) consequent upon this judgment by relating the amount of 113s. 6d. to the Canberra "C" series index-number (1171) for the September quarter, 1946, and the index-number division of the Scale 1167-1178.

By an amending Ordinance, No. 4 of 1949, the Industrial Board was abolished and its functions were transferred to authorities established under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Industrial matters are now determined by either the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or the Conciliation Commissioner assigned to the Australian Capital Territory. It was provided, however, that all existing orders and agreements should continue to operate subject to later orders, awards, and determinations made by the Court or Commissioner.

In reviewing the Australian Capital Territory awards following its decision of 12th October, 1950, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration fixed the Canberra Basic Wage at £8 5s. per week for adult males operative from the beginning of the first pay period in December, 1950. This amount was the "needs" basic wage as expressed by the Court's Second Series index number for Canberra for the September quarter 1950 with the prescribed addition of £1 5s. The new rate represented an increase of 13s. 6d. a week over that previously payable.

The rate payable in the Territory (in respect only of workers outside the Commonwealth Public Service) was 206s. per week, operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1951.

(ii) *Northern Territory*.—The determination of the basic wage for this Territory comes within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

There are, in fact, two basic wages operating—(a) in respect of areas north of the 20th parallel of South Latitude, and generally referred to as the "Darwin" rate, and (b) in respect of areas south of that parallel. These are calculated on different bases as set out in the following paragraphs.

(a) *The Darwin Basic Wage*.—This wage was first determined by the Court in 1915\* when the Deputy President (Powers, J.) awarded a rate of £3 17s. per week, or 1s. 9d. per hour for an unskilled labourer, which included an allowance of 4s. for lost time.

The basic wage level again came under consideration when the wage for carpenters and joiners was reviewed by Mr. Justice Powers in 1916–17†. The Judge referred to an agreement dated 2nd June, 1916, between the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners and the Northern Agency (formerly Vestey Brothers) which provided for rates based on a budget of the estimated living requirements of a family consisting of a man, wife and two dependent children, amounting to £3 11s. 1d. per week. As the amount awarded (2s. 4d. per hour) for carpenters, however, was over £5 per week, the Judge felt that a fair living wage was fully assured. His Honor stated that he did not find anything to cause him to alter the judgment given on 15th March, 1915, when he prescribed a wage of 1s. 9d. per hour.

Up till 1924 the practice of the Court had been to fix the basic wage in accordance with the principles laid down in 1916, and in connexion with an application in 1924 concerning the rate for employees of the Commonwealth Railways, when the wage for these workers stood at £5 4s. 6d., the Judge (Powers J.) refused to alter the wage. He stated that he had in mind the amount of £4 12s., to which he would have felt justified in adding £1 to compensate for the many disadvantages caused by isolation, especially the loss of or extra expense of the proper education of the children. He considered, therefore, that the wage of £5 4s. 6d. then payable contained a special allowance on such account, and that the question of such special allowances was a matter for employers and employees to settle between themselves‡.

In 1927§, Judge Beeby again referred to the regimen of 1916, and implied that since then it had formed the foundation of the basic wages fixed by the Court, and that the sufficiency of the regimen, except as to rent and one or two minor omissions, had never been questioned. On this occasion he fixed the basic wage at £5 10s. per week, or 2s. 6d. per hour, which included 20s. per week district allowance which was suggested by Mr. Justice Powers in his 1924 award as being a reasonable amount.

As there was no adjustment clause in operation in Territory awards, the basic wage of £5 10s. remained in operation until 1934, excepting that it was reduced by the Financial Emergency Act to £4 16s. 3d. per week.

In 1934||, the Full Court for the first time considered the basic wage. The Court brought the regimen of the 1916 agreement up to date, altered the rent figure from 45s. to 65s. per month, and arrived at the amount of

\* 9 C.A.R., p. 1.  
 || 38 C.A.R., p. 944.

† 11 C.A.R., p. 51.

‡ 20 C.A.R., p. 731.

§ 25 C.A.R., p. 897.

£4 10s. 9d. per week. This was £1 4s. 9d. above the Court's "needs" basic wage recently declared for the six capital cities, the Court regarding the difference as representing the extra amount required to purchase the same standard of living as in the six capital cities, with nothing by way of compensation allowance.

Automatic adjustment provisions first introduced into the awards by this judgment were effected by inserting an appropriate Adjustment Scale based on the equation of £4 10s. 9d. to the Food and Groceries retail price index-number (Special) 1184 for Darwin for the month of August, 1934.

In 1938\*, the Court granted a "loading" of 3s. per week on the wage because the Commonwealth Government had extended to the Territory its general civil service increase of £8 per annum.

In 1939†, the adjustment clause was suspended pending further inquiry into the basic wage, and an amount of 16s. 3d. was added as an additional "loading", making the total basic wage at that period £5 10s. per week.

In 1941‡, the Full Court again reviewed the basic wage, and after a full investigation of its past history awarded £5 12s. 9d., made up of (a) £4 10s. 9d. awarded in 1934; (b) 4s. in respect of accrued adjustments since 1939; (c) 5s. additional allowance for rent; and (d) two constant (unadjustable) "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. per week.

The Court also restored the adjustment clause by equating £4 15s. 9d. of the foregoing amounts (£4 10s. 9d. plus 5s. rent) to the base index 1184 of the former adjustment scale (based solely on the Food and Groceries price index-number). This, however, never became effective owing to its being superseded early in 1942 by the Blakeley Orders referred to below. The two "loadings" were not made adjustable. All other "loadings" mentioned above were dropped.

The basis of adjustment was altered by Mr. Conciliation Commissioner Arthur Blakeley by Orders dated 29th January, 1942§, owing to the urgent necessity to provide, over the period of the war, for adjustments in respect of rent, clothing and other miscellaneous items of domestic expenditure which, with the exception of rent, had already increased considerably in price throughout Australia, and threatened to increase further as the war continued. Adjustment by means only of the Food and Groceries Index was therefore no longer doing justice to the workers of the Territory, since the workers elsewhere in Australia were enjoying the benefit derived from the adjustment of their wages by means of the more comprehensive "C" series retail price index covering food and groceries, rent, clothing, household drapery, household utensils, fuel, light, fares, smoking and other miscellaneous items of household expenditure.

As there was no All Items ("C" Series) retail price index for the Territory, nor was it possible to compile one on the basis of prices in Darwin, the only alternative was to create a "composite" index with the help of prices for these additional items from some other town of somewhat similar living conditions. The town selected as being most suitable for this purpose was

\* 39 C.A.R., p. 501.

† 40 C.A.R., p. 323.

‡ 44 C.A.R., p. 253.

§ 46 C.A.R., p. 411.

Townsville, and the "composite" index was therefore computed on the basis of food and groceries prices in Darwin, combined with Townsville prices for rent, clothing and other miscellaneous items of domestic expenditure mentioned above, the index being designated "The Darwin Special 'All Items' Index."

Taking the December quarter, 1940, as a suitable period upon which adjustments should be based, for which quarter the Special "All Items" index-number was 1036, the Court's basic wage of £4 19s. 9d. (including 4s. for accrued adjustments) declared in its judgment of 7th April, 1941\*, was related (not "equated") to the Index-Number Division (1031-1043) containing index-number 1036 of the "C" series adjustment scale formerly used by the Court in its awards (Base: 1923-27 = 1,000 = 81s.), thus giving workers in the Territory the same basis of adjustment as that operating in respect of all workers throughout Australia coming within the jurisdiction of the Court. It should be noted in this connexion that the Court's "needs" equivalent of index-number 1,036 was 84s., so that 15s. 9d. of the Darwin wage was left "unadjustable." The rate payable from 1st February, 1942 (when the new basis first became operative), on the basis of index-number 1,099 for December quarter, 1941, was therefore £5 17s. 9d., inclusive of 5s. by adjustments under the scale since December quarter, 1940 (1,036) and the two unadjustable "loadings" of 3s. and 10s. granted by the Court's judgment of 7th April, 1941.

Following the bombing of Darwin on 19th February, 1942, and on subsequent occasions, it was no longer possible to obtain even food and groceries prices in Darwin, and prices from Alice Springs and Tennant Creek were substituted for those of Darwin in the Special Index by means of a suitable "graft" of the new to the old prices in order to cancel out the effect on the index due solely to this substitution†.

On an application by the Unions for the addition to the basic wage in the Territory of the amount of 7s. per week added by the Court elsewhere in Australia by its "Interim" Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946 (see page 80, vi), the Full Court on 13th March, 1947, decided to postpone the matter pending a general review of the basic wage in the Territory, although the Court granted the amount in the case of areas south of the 20th Parallel of South Latitude (see below). This further review was opened in Darwin with preliminary evidence taken by J. H. Portus, C.C., on 16th February, 1948, and ultimately dealt with by the Full Court in Adelaide on 20th May, 1948. The Court made an "interim" judgment, pending the hearing and finalization of the basic wage inquiry held in 1949-50 at the instance of the combined unions throughout Australia (see page 81, vii), granting the present equivalent of the 7s. referred to above, namely, 8s.; adopting the new Darwin Special "All Items" Index as from the March quarter, 1948 (containing the restored prices of food and groceries for Darwin proper, plus Townsville prices for rent, clothing and miscellaneous items), namely, 1,283; transferred the basis of adjustment from the present Automatic Adjustment Scale ("C" Series) on 1,000 = 81s. per week to the new Scale on 1,000 = 87s. per week [in conformity with the "Court"

\* 44 C.A.R., p. 253.

† 48 C.A.R., p. 20.

Index (2nd Series)] ; and expressed it to come into operation from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing after 20th May, 1948. The resultant total basic wage payable was therefore £7 os. 9d., made up of £5 12s. (the "needs" equivalent of index-number 1,283 mentioned above), the "unadjustable" amount of 15s. 9d. (see page 93) and the loadings 3s. and 10s.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (see page 81) an "interim" increase of £1 2s. per week was authorized pending a special inquiry into the fixation of a new basic wage for the Northern Territory. As a result of the latter inquiry the Court announced on 19th November, 1951, that it would make an order "based upon the consent and agreement of the parties for a basic wage in the Northern Territory at £10 10s. per week." The new rates were operative from the beginning of the first pay-period in November, 1951. The Darwin Special "All Items" Index (see above) was retained as the basis for subsequent quarterly adjustments but with the index-number of 1824 equated to 200s. per week. Subsequently by decisions of the Conciliation Commissioner, a special loading of 10s. per week operative from the same date as the new basic wage was added to the wage rates in most awards applicable to that part of the Northern Territory north of 20th parallel of South latitude.

(b) *Northern Territory (South of 20th parallel of South Latitude).*—There are two main groups of employees in this area of the Northern Territory, namely, employees of the Commonwealth Railways and employees of the Department of Works and Housing (formerly the Works and Services Branch of the Department of the Interior).

The small number of Commonwealth Railways employees engaged in the area are at Alice Springs and in several small permanent-way gangs between Alice Springs and the South Australian border.

Prior to 1937 Commonwealth Railways employees were covered by awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, but since that year the rates of pay (including the basic wage) have been as prescribed by determinations of the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator. It has been the practice of the Court and the Public Service Arbitrator to fix a common base rate for Commonwealth Railways employees (the main centre being Port Augusta) and to provide, by means of "District Allowances," additional rates to employees in isolated areas.

Prior to 3rd February, 1935, Commonwealth employees (other than Commonwealth Railways employees) engaged in the Northern Territory south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude were paid the Darwin basic wage. The Full Court in Judgment issued on 13th November, 1934\*, fixed a rate of 80s. per week for Works and Services employees, which included an amount of 7s. per week to cover the cost of freight on goods purchased from the Railway Stores at Port Augusta. This rate compared with £4 10s. 9d. being paid in areas north of the 20th parallel, and with £3 5s. in Adelaide.

\* 33 C.A.R., p. 947.

Provision was also made for the adjustment of this wage to be made in the manner provided by the Court for railway employees at Alice Springs, namely, on the basis of the Court's "C" series adjustment scale in accordance with the variations of the "Special" index-number for Port Augusta (inclusive of Railway Stores prices for groceries and dairy produce). Although no base index-number was mentioned, it can be taken that the base index-number division of the scale ( $809-820 = 66s.$ ) was the starting point of the variations and was related to a total basic wage of £4, as this division contained "C" series index-number 819 (Special) for the September quarter, 1934—from which it will also be observed that only 66s. of the total wage was actually adjustable.

The 3s. per week "loading" granted by the Court in 1938\* applied to employees located south of the 20th parallel of South Latitude as well as to those engaged north thereof.

At a hearing on 12th and 13th March, 1947, the Full Court granted to workers in this area the amount of 7s. per week consequent upon its "Interim" Basic Wage Judgment of 13th December, 1946, as an addition to the "adjustable" part of the basic wage applicable. The questions raised as to a general review of the basic wage in the Territory as a whole were postponed pending the hearing and finalization of the basic wage inquiry held in 1949-50 at the instance of the combined Unions of Australia (see page 81).

By an Order of 11th October, 1949, the Full Court amended the existing award to provide for the adjustment to date and thereafter (by means of the "C" Series Automatic Adjustment Scale) of the 7s. per week "excess" over the contemporaneous "needs" rate granted by the Full Court on 13th November, 1934†.

The relevant "Special" "C" Series index-number for the latter period (as indicated above) was 819, equivalent to a "needs" wage of £3 6s. per week, and the above adjustment was effected by an additional column to the Scale calculated on the basis of raising the weekly "needs" equivalents by the ratio of 66s. to 73s., or by multiplying the successive weekly "needs" rates by the factor 1.10606. Thus, the base rate of the Scale 1000 = 87s. became 96s.

The Order was expressed to come into operation from the first Sunday in December, 1949, on the basis of the index-number for September quarter, 1949, as the starting point. The "needs" rate for this was £6 1s. which by the above formula became £6 14s., and to this was added the loadings previously payable of 7s. for "Freight Costs" and 3s. for "Prosperity Loading," making a total basic wage of £7 4s., representing an increase of 6s. per week over the former basis of calculation.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (see page 81) an "interim" increase of £1 2s. per week was authorized pending a special inquiry into the fixation of a new basic wage for the Northern Territory. As a result of the latter inquiry the Court announced on 19th November, 1951, that it would make an order "based upon the consent and agreement

\* 29 C.A.R., p. 501.

† 33 C.A.R., p. 947.

of the parties for a basic wage in the Northern Territory at £10 10s. per week." The new rates were operative from the beginning of the first pay-period in November, 1951. The Port Augusta Special "All Items" Index (*see above*) was retained as the basis for subsequent quarterly adjustments but with the index-number of 1757 equated to 194s. per week. Subsequently by decisions of the Conciliation Commissioner, a special loading of 7s. per week operative from the same date as the new basic wage was added to the wage rates in most awards applicable to that part of the Northern Territory south of 20th parallel of south latitude.

**5. State Basic Wages.**—(i) *New South Wales.*—The first determination under the New South Wales Industrial Arbitration Act of a standard "living" wage for adult male employees was made on 16th February, 1914, when the Court of Industrial Arbitration fixed the "living" wage at £2 8s. per week for adult male employees in the metropolitan area. Determinations of the "living" wage in New South Wales were made by the Court of Industrial Arbitration during the period 1914 to 1916. The Board of Trade was established in 1918, and was empowered to determine the "living" wage for adult male and female employees in the State. Its first declaration was made on 5th September, 1918, and numerous declarations were made during the period 1918 to 1925, the last declaration being that of 24th August, 1925. The Board ceased to function after the Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act 1926 established the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, which exercised the powers of the Board of Trade as from 15th April, 1926. The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act No. 45, 1927, altered the constitution of the Industrial Commission from a single Commissioner to one consisting of three members. Act No. 14 of 1936, however, provided for the appointment of four members and Act No. 36 of 1938 for the appointment of not less than five and not more than six members. The Commission was directed *inter alia*, "not more frequently than once in every six months to determine a standard of living and to declare . . . the living wages based upon such standard for adult male and female employees in the State." The Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Act, 1932, directed the Commission within twenty-eight days from the end of the months of March and September to adjust the living wages so declared to accord with the increased or decreased cost of maintaining the determined standard. The first declaration of the Commission was made on 15th December, 1926, when the rate for adult males was fixed at £4 4s. per week, the same rate as that previously declared by the Board of Trade. The adult male rate was determined on the family unit of a man, wife and two children from 1914 to 1925; a man and wife only in 1927, with family allowances for dependent children; and a man, wife, and one child in 1929, with family allowances for other dependent children. With the adoption in 1937 of the Commonwealth basic wage, however, (*see below*), the identification of a specified family unit with the basic wage disappeared.

Employees in rural industries are not covered by the rates shown in the following table; a living wage for rural workers of £3 6s. per week was in force for twelve months from October, 1921, and a rate of £4 4s. operated from June, 1927, to December, 1929, when the power of industrial tribunals to fix a living wage for rural workers was withdrawn.

The variations in the living wage determined by the industrial tribunals of New South Wales are shown below :—

### Basic Wage Variations in New South Wales.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.	Date of Declaration.	Basic Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
16th February, 1914 ..	2 8 0	..	..
17th December, 1915 ..	2 12 6	..	..
18th August, 1916 ..	2 15 6	..	..
5th September, 1918 ..	3 0 0	17th December, 1918 ..	1 10 0
8th October, 1919 ..	3 17 0	23rd December, 1919 ..	1 19 0
8th October, 1920 ..	4 5 0	23rd December, 1920 ..	2 3 0
8th October, 1921 ..	4 2 0	22nd December, 1921 ..	2 1 0
12th May, 1922 ..	3 18 0	9th October, 1922 ..	1 19 6
10th April, 1923 ..	3 19 0	(a) ..	2 0 0
7th September, 1923 ..	4 2 0	..	2 1 6
24th August, 1925 ..	4 4 0	..	2 2 6
27th June, 1927 ..	4 5 0	..	2 6 0
20th December, 1929 ..	4 2 6	..	2 4 6
26th August, 1932 ..	3 10 0	..	1 18 0
11th April, 1933 ..	3 8 6	..	1 17 0
20th October, 1933 ..	3 6 6	..	1 16 0
26th April, 1934 ..	3 7 6	..	1 16 6
18th April, 1935 ..	3 8 6	..	1 17 0
24th April, 1936 ..	3 9 0	..	(b) 1 17 6
27th October, 1936 ..	3 10 0	..	1 18 0
27th April, 1937 ..	3 11 6(c)	..	1 18 6

(a) Dates of declarations from 1923 on were the same as those for male rate.

(b) Rate declared, £1 15s. 6d., but law amended to provide a rate for females at 54 per cent. of that of males.

(c) Hereafter wages are fixed and adjusted quarterly in accordance with the practice of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for details of which and latest rates see next page.

Following on the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration of 23rd June, 1937, referred to on page 77 the Government of New South Wales decided to bring the State Basic Wage into line with the Commonwealth rates ruling in the State, and secured an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act (No. 9 of 1937) to give effect thereto. The Act was passed on 7th October, 1937, and came into operation from the commencement of the first pay period in October, practically from 1st October, 1937. The general principles laid down by the Commonwealth Court were followed as closely as practicable and provision was made for the automatic adjustment of wages in conformity with variations of retail prices as shown by the Commonwealth Court's "All Items" Retail Price Index-numbers, shortly known as the "Court" Series of Index-numbers. The Commonwealth Court's principle of treating the "prosperity loadings" as a separate and non-adjustable part of the total basic wage was adopted. The rates for country towns were, with certain exceptions, fixed at 3s. per week below the metropolitan rate; and Crown employees, as defined, received a "prosperity loading" of 5s. per week, as against the 6s. laid down for employees in outside industry. The basic rate for adult females was fixed at 54 per cent. of the adult male rate to the nearest 6d. The provisions of the main Acts for the periodic declaration of the living wage by the Industrial Commission were repealed, but the amending Act placed on the Commission the responsibility of altering all awards and agreements in conformity with the



intentions of the new Act; to define boundaries within which the various rates are to operate\*; and to specify the appropriate "Court" Series retail price index-numbers to which they are to be related.

The judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration of 12th October, 1950, necessitated attention by the legislature to the clauses of the Industrial Arbitration Act providing for the automatic adjustment of rates of pay based on the Commonwealth Basic Wage Judgment of 23rd June, 1937.

An amendment to the Industrial Arbitration Act was assented to on 23rd November, 1950, which empowered the Industrial Commission to vary the terms of awards and industrial agreements affecting male rates of pay, to the extent to which the Commission thought fit, to give effect to the alteration in the basic wage for adult males made by the Commonwealth judgment. In the case of female rates of pay the Commission was empowered to review the terms of awards and industrial agreements and to vary such terms as in the circumstances the Commission decided proper, but no variation was to fix rates of pay for female employees lower than the Commonwealth basic wage for adult females.

To facilitate the work of the Commission, awards were divided into separate classes, and orders issued regarding the variations to be made to those in each class. The rates for adult males were increased by the same amounts as the corresponding Commonwealth rates, with special provision to cover the cases of apprentices, casual workers and employees on piecework. In deciding the variation for female employees the Commission prescribed an increase in the total wage rate (i.e., basic wage plus marginal rate) of £1 4s. 6d. per week subject to the statutory provision (incorporated in the amendment of 23rd November) that the minimum total rate was to be not less than the basic wage for adult females prescribed in Commonwealth awards, that is, at least 75 per cent. of the corresponding male basic wage rate.

In the judgment delivered on 9th March, 1951, giving reasons for its decision on female rates, the Commission decided that the basic wage for adult females prescribed by the Commonwealth Court in reality included a portion "due to secondary considerations," and could not be considered a "reasonable and proper basic wage for the assessment of rates of female employees under the Industrial Arbitration Act".

In discussing the composition of the amount of £6 3s. 6d. which the Commonwealth Court in its judgment of October, 1950, had prescribed as the basic wage for adult females in New South Wales, the Commission stated "After giving the matter fullest consideration, we think in the circumstances it is reasonable to allocate £1 of the said sum of £6 3s. 6d. to secondary considerations and to regard the amount of £1 4s. 6d. as an addition proper to be made to the pre-existing basic wage in New South Wales of £3 19s. The total, £5 3s. 6d. becomes therefore the true female basic wage in New South Wales. To state the decision the Commission has reached in other words, the Commission assesses the true basic wage or foundational wage which it is proper to apply when adjusting, or in the course of making future awards assessing rates of female employees under the Industrial Arbitration Act, as £5 3s. 6d. per week."

As a consequence of the overriding statutory requirement that no rate for adult females in State awards shall fall below the Commonwealth basic

\* See N.S.W. Industrial Gazette 1937, Vol. 52, pages 783-4.

wage for adult females, the amount of the quarterly adjustments to the female basic wage for changes in the "Court" series index numbers is the same in Commonwealth and State awards.

By an amendment of the Industrial Arbitration Act in June, 1951, the differentiation in rates for the basic wage in different districts and for employees under Crown awards was eliminated as a general rule, making the basic wage throughout the State equal to that paid in Sydney, with the main exception of the Broken Hill district where a different basic rate still prevails.

The rates applicable from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in November, 1951, in the metropolitan area, under this system of fixation and adjustment were £10 7s. per week for adult males, and £7 15s. for adult females.

The principle of supplementing wages by a payment in respect of dependent children under fourteen years of age operated in New South Wales from July, 1927, until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme from 1st July, 1941, and a brief account of the main features of the system appeared on page 103 of Labour Report No. 36.

(ii) *Victoria*.—Up to October, 1934, no basic wage was fixed by any State authority in Victoria, but the Wages Boards followed the rates of the Commonwealth Court to a large extent, and also made similar periodical adjustments in accordance with variations in retail prices. With the passing of The Factories and Shops Acts, Nos. 4,275 of 1934 which operated from 17th October, 1934, and 4,461 of 1936, it is obligatory on all Wages Boards to adopt Commonwealth Award rates and conditions "which such Boards are under the Factory and Shops Acts empowered to include in their determinations". The Act further provides for the Secretary for Labour to make adjustments of wages according to variations in retail price index-numbers without calling the Boards together for the purpose, in respect of all Determinations which include an adjustment clause.

In accordance with the decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to increase the male and female basic wages from December, 1950 (*see* page 81) the Wages Boards met and incorporated the new Commonwealth rates in their determinations.

The adult male weekly rate for Melbourne was increased by 19s. to £8 2s. and the new adult female rate became £6 1s. 6d. (75 per cent. of the adult male rate).

The Commonwealth rates for Melbourne operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1951, were £9 19s. per week for adult males and £7 9s. per week for adult females.

(iii) *Queensland*.—The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act No. 28 of 1929 repealed the Industrial Arbitration Act 1916 and amendments thereof, and the Basic Wage Act of 1925. The Board of Trade and Arbitration was abolished, and a Court, called the Industrial Court, was established. The Act provides that it shall be the duty of the Court to make declarations as to—(a) the "basic" wage, and (b) the maximum weekly hours to be worked in industry (called the "standard" hours). For the purposes of making any such declarations the Court shall be constituted by the Judge and two members one of whom shall be also a member of the Queensland Prices Board.

The main provisions to be observed by the Court when determining the "basic" wage are—(a) the minimum wage of an adult male employee shall be not less than is sufficient to maintain a well-conducted employee

of average health, strength and competence, and his wife and a family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the conditions of living prevailing among employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed, and provided that the earnings of the children or wife of such employee shall not be taken into account; (b) the minimum wage of an adult female employee shall be not less than is sufficient to enable her to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort, having regard to the nature of her duties and to the conditions of living prevailing among female employees in the calling in respect of which such minimum wage is fixed. The Court shall, in the matter of making declarations in regard to the "basic" wage or "standard" hours, take into consideration the probable economic effect of such declaration in relation to the community in general, and the probable economic effect thereof upon industry or any industry or industries concerned.

The first formal declaration by the Industrial Arbitration Court in this State of a basic wage was gazetted on 24th February, 1921, when the basic wage was declared at £4 5s. per week for adult males, and £2 3s. for adult females. Prior to this declaration the rate of £3 17s. per week for adult males had been generally recognized by the Court in its awards as the "basic" or "living" wage. The declarations of the Industrial Court are published in the Queensland Industrial Gazette and the various rates declared are as follows:—

**Basic Wage Variations in Queensland.**  
(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Adult Basic Wage.	
	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st March, 1921 .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st March, 1922 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
28th September, 1925 (a) .. .. .	4 5 0	2 3 0
1st August, 1930 .. .. .	4 0 0	2 1 0
1st December, 1930 .. .. .	3 17 0	1 19 6
1st July, 1931 .. .. .	3 14 0	1 19 0
1st April, 1937 .. .. .	3 18 0	2 1 0
1st April, 1938 .. .. .	4 1 0	2 3 0
7th August, 1939 .. .. .	4 4 0	2 5 0
31st March, 1941 .. .. .	4 9 0	2 8 0
4th May, 1942 (b) .. .. .	4 11 0	2 9 6
23rd December, 1946 (c) .. .. .	5 5 0	3 0 6
7th December, 1950 (c) .. .. .	7 14 0	5 2 6

(a) Fixed by Basic Wage Act. (b) Quarterly adjustments provided by judgment of 21st April, 1942—see below. (c) Consequent upon basic wage increases granted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The amount of 89s. which, taking the most favorable view of the standard of living, the Court considered complied with the requirements of Section 9 of the Act, was continued in operation up to and including the Court's declaration of 15th April, 1942. In order to ensure that this amount would continue to comply with these requirements under prevailing conditions created by the war, however, the Court indicated its intention "to declare it quarterly on the cost of living "C" Series (All Items) index, commencing with the figures for the first quarter of 1942." In accordance with this undertaking the Court, on 21st April, 1942, raised, as from 4th May, 1942, the basic wage to 91s. per week for adult

males and 49s. 6d. for adult females on the basis of the variation in retail prices shown by the index-numbers mentioned for Brisbane between the December quarter, 1941, and the March quarter, 1942. Since then, quarterly adjustments have been made to the basic wage in accordance with changes in the "C" Series (All Items) index.

In view of the "Interim" Basic Wage judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in December, 1946 (*see* page 80), the Queensland Industrial Court granted an increase in the basic wage of 7s. for adult males and 5s. for adult females to operate from 23rd December, 1946.

Following the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration to increase the male and female basic wage from December, 1950 (*see* page 81) the Industrial Arbitration Court of Queensland conducted an inquiry as to what change should be made to the State Basic Wage for Queensland.

By a majority decision on 30th November, 1950, the Industrial Court granted an increase of 15s. weekly to both adult males and adult females thus increasing the metropolitan rates to £7 14s. per week and £5 2s. 6d. per week respectively. The increases became operative from 7th December, 1950.

The new male rate of £7 14s. corresponded to the Commonwealth Basic Wage for the Brisbane metropolitan area and this parity has since been maintained although the dates on which the quarterly changes become operative do not necessarily correspond with those prescribed for Commonwealth awards.

The new female rate of £5 2s. 6d. represents 66 per cent. of the male rate instead of 63 per cent. (approximately) as previously, and this 66 per cent. determines the basic wage payable to adult females.

The judgment of the Queensland Industrial Court may be found in the supplement to the Queensland Industrial Gazette, Vol. 35, No. 4, page 1253.

The rates payable in accordance with regular quarterly variations from 29th October, 1951, were £9 5s. for adult males and £6 3s. for adult females.

The rates shown above are applicable throughout the Southern Division (Eastern District—including Brisbane); allowances are added for other areas as follows:—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division (Eastern District), 10s.; and Northern Division (Western District) 17s. 4d. Half of these allowances are granted to females.\*

(iv) *South Australia*.—The Industrial Code 1920-1950 provides that the Board of Industry shall, after public inquiry as to the increase or decrease in the average cost of living, declare the "living wage" to be paid to adult male employees and to adult female employees. The Board has power also to fix different rates to be paid in different defined areas.

It is provided that the Board of Industry shall hold an inquiry for the purpose of declaring the "living wage" whenever a substantial change in the cost of living or any other circumstance has, in the opinion of the Board, rendered it just and expedient to review the question of the "living wage," but a new determination cannot be made by the Board until the expiration of at least six months from the date of its previous determination.

The Board of Industry consists of five members, one nominated by the Minister for Industry, two nominated by the South Australian Employers' Federation as representatives of employers, and two nominated by the United Trades and Labour Council of South Australia as representatives of employees. The member nominated by the Minister is President and presides at all meetings of the Board.

\* As defined in Queensland Industrial Gazette, 10th December, 1921, page 826.

According to the Industrial Code 1920-1950, "living wage" means a sum sufficient for the normal and reasonable needs of the average employee living in the locality where the work under consideration is done or is to be done.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Code, but the South Australian Industrial Court in 1920 decided that the "average employee" in respect of whom the "living wage" is to be declared is a man with a wife and three children.

The first declaration of the "living wage" was made by the Board of Industry on 15th July, 1921, when the "living wage" for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was determined at £3 19s. 6d. per week. The "living wage" for adult female employees in the same area was declared on 11th August, 1921, at £1 15s. per week.

Following on the declaration of an "interim" increase in its "needs" basic wage by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on 13th December, 1946 (see p. 80) the South Australian Parliament passed the Economic Stability Act No. 52 of 1946. By virtue of this Act and all other enabling powers, the Governor may, by proclamation, declare, *inter alia*, the "daily living wage" for adult males in the metropolitan area to be one-sixth of the Commonwealth basic weekly wage for this area. A proclamation dated 24th December, 1946, was accordingly made by the Governor, declaring the rate of 102s. per week, inclusive of the "prosperity loading" of 4s. This rate operated from 7th January, 1947. The Act mentioned also provided for similar proclamations in respect of any adjustment of such wage, but the powers of the Board of Industry to declare a "living wage" were retained, and any such wage so declared will supersede that declared by proclamation.

The variations in the living wages determined by the Board of Industry are shown below, and apply to the whole State:—

### Living Wage Variations in South Australia.

(State Jurisdiction.)

Male.		Female.	
Date of Operation.	Living Wage per Week.	Date of Operation.	Living Wage per Week.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
4th August, 1921 ..	3 19 6	1st September, 1921 ..	1 15 0
27th April, 1922 ..	3 17 6	..	..
8th November, 1923 ..	3 18 6	..	..
15th May, 1924 ..	4 2 0	13th November, 1924 ..	1 18 0
13th August, 1925 ..	4 5 6	3rd September, 1925 ..	1 19 6
30th October, 1930 ..	3 15 0	15th January, 1931 ..	1 15 0
10th September, 1931 ..	3 3 0	24th December, 1931 ..	1 11 6
7th November, 1935 ..	3 6 0	16th January, 1936 ..	1 13 0
7th January, 1937 ..	3 9 6	29th April, 1937 ..	1 14 9
25th November, 1937 ..	3 14 0	(a) ..	1 16 6
5th January, 1939 ..	3 18 0	..	1 18 0
28th November, 1940 ..	4 4 0	..	2 1 0
27th November, 1941 ..	4 7 0	..	2 3 6
15th October, 1942 ..	4 14 0	..	2 6 2
26th September, 1946 ..	4 18 6	..	2 15 0
7th January, 1947(b) ..	5 2 0	..	2 17 0
8th July, 1948 ..	5 17 0	..	3 6 6
19th May, 1949 ..	6 5 0	..	3 8 6

(a) From 1937 dates of operation were the same as those for male rates. rate for metropolitan area adopted.

(b) Commonwealth

The Industrial Code Amendment Act No. 65 of 1949 made provision for the quarterly adjustment of the "living wage" in accordance with the variations in the Commonwealth basic wage consequent on the changes in the Court Series index of retail prices for Adelaide. In effect this resulted in parity between the State Living Wage and the Commonwealth Basic Wage from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in February, 1950.

The prescribed adjustment to the female "living wage" was seven-twelfths of the same adjustment to the Commonwealth male basic wage.

The Board of Industry retained power to amend the "living wage" but any new "living wage" was to be adjusted quarterly as above.

Following the decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81), the South Australian legislation was amended to enable, *inter alia*, the "living wage" to be altered by proclamation "in order to avoid unjustifiable differences between rates of wage fixed under Commonwealth and State laws respectively".

By proclamation dated 30th November, 1950, the South Australian Living Wage in the metropolitan area was increased from £6 17s. to £7 18s. for adult males and from £3 14s. 11d. to £5 18s. 6d. for adult females, operative from 4th December, 1950. These new rates were identical with the December rates fixed by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration for the metropolitan area of South Australia.

There was thus an increase of £1 1s. per week for adult males and £2 3s. 7d. for adult females. The larger increase for females was attributable to the change in the percentage of the male rate upon which the female rate was based. Previously the female rate had been approximately 54 per cent. of the male basic wage but by the proclamation the female basic wage was increased to 75 per cent. of the corresponding male rate.

The rates payable in accordance with the quarterly adjustments notified by the President of the Board of Industry operating from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1951, were £9 15s. per week for adult males, and £7 6s. for adult females.

(v) *Western Australia*.—The Court of Arbitration, appointed under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1950, determines and declares the "basic" wage in this State. The Court consists of three members appointed by the Governor, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employers, one on the recommendation of the industrial unions of employees, while the third member is a Judge of the Supreme Court. The last-mentioned member is the President of the Court.

The Industrial Arbitration Act 1912-1950 provides that the Court of Arbitration may determine and declare a basic wage at any time on its own motion, and must do so when requested by a majority of industrial unions or by the Western Australian Employers' Federation, with the limitation that no new determination shall be made within twelve months of the last preceding inquiry.

The term "basic wage" is defined in the Act as "a wage which the Court considers to be just and reasonable for the average worker to whom it applies". In determining what is just and reasonable the Court must take into account not only the "needs of an average worker" but also the "economic capacity of industry" and any other matters the Court deems relevant.

The family unit is not specifically defined in the Act, but it has been the practice of the Court to take as a basis of its calculations a man, his wife and two dependent children.

Provision is also made in the Act for quarterly adjustments of the "basic wage" by the Court of Arbitration when an official statement supplied to the Court by the State Government Statistician relating to the cost of living shows that a variation of 1s. or more per week has occurred, compared with the preceding quarter. These adjustments apply from the dates of declaration by the Court.

The annual and special declarations of the Court of Arbitration under the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Act are shown for the various areas in the State in the following table. It must be noted that prior to 1950 the legislation differed from that outlined above. Particulars of the previous legislation will be found in earlier issues of the Labour Report.

**Basic Wage Variations in Western Australia.**  
(State Jurisdiction.)

Date of Operation.	Metropolitan Area.		South-West Land Division.		Gold-fields Areas and Other Parts of State.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1st July, 1926 ..	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
" " 1929 ..	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0	4 7 0	2 7 0
" " 1930 ..	4 6 0	2 6 5	4 5 0	2 5 11	4 5 0	2 5 11
" " 1931 ..	3 18 0	2 2 2	3 17 0	2 1 8	3 17 0	2 1 8
" " 1932 ..	3 12 0	1 18 11	3 13 6	1 19 8	3 18 0	2 2 2
" " 1933 ..	3 8 0	1 16 9	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 17 6	2 1 10
" " 1934 ..	3 9 6	1 17 6	3 10 0	1 17 10	3 19 6	2 2 11
" " 1935 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 2	1 18 5	4 4 4	2 5 6
" " 1936 ..	3 10 6	1 18 1	3 11 9	1 18 9	4 6 0	2 6 5
" " 1937 ..	3 13 9	1 19 10	3 14 8	2 0 4	4 7 0	2 7 0
" " 1938 ..	4 0 0	2 3 2	4 1 0	2 3 9	4 13 3	2 10 4
" " 1939 ..	4 2 2	2 4 4	4 3 1	2 4 10	4 16 4	2 12 0
" " 1940 ..	4 2 8	2 4 8	4 3 3	2 4 11	4 16 3	2 12 0
" " 1941(c) ..	4 8 0	2 7 6	4 9 3	2 8 2	5 3 6	2 15 11
" " 1943 ..	4 19 1	2 13 6	4 18 1	2 13 0	5 5 9	2 17 1
" " 1944 ..	4 19 11	2 13 11	4 19 8	2 13 10	5 7 1	2 17 10
" " 1945 ..	5 0 1	2 14 1	4 19 7	2 13 9	5 7 5	2 18 0
" " 1946 ..	5 1 1	2 14 7	5 0 6	2 14 3	5 9 0	2 18 10
26th Feb., 1947(d) ..	5 7 1	2 17 10	5 6 6	2 17 6	5 15 4	3 2 3
1st July, 1947 ..	5 7 10	2 18 3	5 7 3	2 17 11	5 16 0	3 2 8
" " 1948 ..	5 15 9	3 2 6	5 15 2	3 2 2	6 4 9	3 7 4
" " 1949 ..	6 7 1	3 8 8	6 6 9	3 8 5	6 15 1	3 12 11
" " 1950 ..	7 0 0	3 15 7	6 19 9	3 15 6	7 7 3	3 19 6
18th Dec., 1950(d) ..	8 6 6	4 14 1	8 6 7	4 14 2	8 14 8	4 18 6

(a) Excluding Gold-fields areas, where rates were the same as those operating from 1st July, 1926.

(b) Applicable from 24th April, 1939.

(c) Applicable from 28th April, 1941.

(d) Special declarations following basic wage increases granted by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The first declarations of the "basic wage" by the Court of Arbitration since the authority to fix one was vested in the Court by the Industrial Arbitration Act of 1925 was made on 11th June, 1926, when the rate for adult male employees was determined at £4 5s. per week, and for adult female employees at £2 5s. 11d. per week. Since that date the principal inquiries have been those of 1938, 1947 and 1950.

The declaration of 13th June, 1938 (operative from 1st July) was based on the findings of the Royal Commission on the Basic Wage 1920 (*see* p. 106). For this purpose the Court reduced the amount recommended by the Commission for a five-unit family to the equivalent for a four-unit family, and brought the resulting amounts up to their purchasing equivalents at the March quarter, 1938, by means of the separate "group" retail price index-numbers in respect of the sections for food, clothing and miscellaneous expenditure, and for rent added an amount which was considered fair under ruling conditions.

The increased basic wage of 26th February, 1947, was granted after an inquiry by the Western Australian Court of Arbitration consequent upon the "interim" basic wage judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in December, 1946. (*See* page 80.)

Following the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) the Western Australian Court of Arbitration resumed an inquiry which had been adjourned, to ascertain what change should be made in the State Basic Wage rates. In its judgment of 7th December, 1950, the Court decided that the basic wage should be increased by £1 per week for adult males and by 15s. per week for adult females. The rates in the metropolitan area then became £8 6s. 6d. for adult males and £4 14s. 1d. for adult females operative from 18th December, 1950.

In relation to the female rate the Unions' claim had been for a basic wage equal to 75 per cent. of the male rate instead of the existing 54 per cent. basis. Although this claim was not granted it was intimated that, the increase of 15s. should not necessarily be regarded as the Court's final word on the subject.

The judgment of the Court may be found on page 336 of the Western Australian Industrial Gazette, Volume 30, No. 3-4.

As the result of a subsequent inquiry the basic wage for adult females was increased to 65 per cent. of the corresponding male rate, operative from 1st December, 1951. This was subject to the condition that the increase should be offset by the reduction in or deletion of existing margins between the basic wage and total wage as specified by the appropriate award or determination.

The rates payable in the metropolitan area in accordance with the quarterly adjustments declared by the Court, operating from 22nd October, 1951, were £10 5s. 8d. for adult males and £5 16s. 3d. for adult females.

(vi) *Tasmania*.—No State basic wage is fixed by any State authority in Tasmania, but Wages Boards follow to a large extent the rates of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and adjust wages automatically or otherwise in accordance with variations in retail price index-numbers in conformity with provisions of the Wages Board Act.

Consequent upon the decision of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry (*see* page 81) the Tasmanian Wages Boards met and incorporated the new Commonwealth basic wage rates in their determinations. The adult male weekly rate for Hobart was increased by £1 1s. to £8 and the new adult female rate became £6 (75 per cent. of the adult male rate).

The Commonwealth adult male rate for Hobart operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in November, 1951, was £9 19s. and the adult female rate is 75 per cent. of the male rate.



(vii) *Rates Prescribed*.—The “basic wage” rates of State industrial tribunals operative in February and November, 1951, are summarized in the following table :—

State Basic Wage : Weekly Rates.

State.	February, 1951.			November, 1951.		
	Date of Operation.	Males.	Females.	Date of Operation.	Males.	Females.
		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
New South Wales—						
Metropolitan and Country, excluding Broken Hill ..	(a)	173 0	129 6	(a)	207 0	155 0
Broken Hill ..	(a)	184 0	138 0	(a)	209 0	156 6
Victoria (b) ..	(a)	170 0	127 6	(a)	199 0	149 0
Queensland—						
Southern Division (Eastern District) -including Brisbane (c) ..	5.2.51	159 0	105 6	29.10.51	185 0	123 0
South Australia ..	(a)	166 0	124 6	(a)	195 0	146 0
Western Australia—						
Metropolitan Area ..	29.1.51	172 11	97 9	22.10.51	205 8	116 3
South-West Land Division ..	29.1.51	172 11	97 9	22.10.51	204 7	115 8
Goldfields and other areas ..	29.1.51	180 5	101 9	22.10.51	210 11	118 11
Tasmania (b) ..	(a)	165 0	123 6	(a)	199 0	149 0

(a) Operative from beginning of first pay-period commencing in month shown. (b) None declared but rates (Capital City) shown are those of Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration which are followed to a large extent. (c) Allowances added for other areas :—Males—Southern Division (Western District), 7s. 4d.; Mackay Division, 5s. 6d.; Northern Division (Eastern District), 10s.; Northern Division (Western District), 17s. 4d.; Females—Half of these allowances. (d) Increased female rates operative from 1st December, 1951, as follows :—Metropolitan area 133s. 8d.; South-West Land Division, 133s.; Goldfields and other areas, 137s. 1d. The increase in the basic wage element for females in December, 1951, was partly offset by a decrease in the margin between the basic wage and total wage.

6. **Royal Commission on Basic Wage, 1920.**—The Commonwealth Government appointed a Royal Commission in 1919 to inquire into and report upon the following matters :—

- (i) The actual cost of living at the present time, according to reasonable standards of comfort, including all matters comprised in the ordinary expenditure of a household, for a man with a wife and three children under fourteen years of age, and the several items and amounts which make up that cost.
- (ii) The actual corresponding cost of living during each of the last five years.
- (iii) How the basic wage may be automatically adjusted to the rise and fall from time to time of the purchasing-power of money.

The Commission issued two reports—the first in November, 1920, and the second in April, 1921. These reports show that, according to the standard assumed by the Commission, the cost of living as at 1st November, 1920, for a family consisting of man, wife, and three children under fourteen years of age, was as follows :—

## Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1st November, 1920.

Particulars.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Food ..	2 6 9	2 6 2	2 3 1	2 7 2	2 4 11	2 8 11
Rent ..	1 2 0	1 0 6	0 17 0	0 19 6	0 19 0	0 19 0
Clothing ..	1 7 0	1 9 0	1 6 0	1 8 3	1 7 9	1 9 2
Miscellaneous ..	1 1 4	1 0 10	1 0 1	1 1 2	1 2 3	0 19 10
Total (a) ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

(a) Weighted Average Six Capitals—£5 15s. 8d., but no recommendation made.

The corresponding costs of the commodities and services included (which are fully set out in the first report) for the years 1914 to 1920 were as follows :—

## Royal Commission on Basic Wage : Cost of Living, 1914 to 1920.

Years.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1914 ..	3 12 11	3 7 9	3 4 0	3 11 2	3 12 9	3 6 9
1915 ..	4 1 6	3 16 9	3 11 3	3 19 0	3 17 1	3 15 1
1916 ..	4 4 6	3 17 5	3 13 10	3 19 7	4 1 2	3 15 6
1917 ..	4 9 8	4 2 2	3 19 3	4 3 2	4 4 2	4 4 10
1918 ..	4 14 8	4 8 10	4 6 0	4 10 11	4 9 2	4 8 6
1919 ..	5 5 3	4 18 5	4 15 10	5 2 6	5 0 9	5 0 4
1920 ..	5 17 1	5 16 6	5 6 2	5 16 1	5 13 11	5 16 11

In answer to the third clause of the inquiry, the Commission recommended that "a Bureau of Labour should be organized from existing members of the Public Service, which should ascertain from time to time the rise and fall in the purchasing-power of money in relation to the reasonable standard of comfort for the typical family (i.e., such a family as is described in Clause 1)". After consulting the Commonwealth Statistician as to methods of collection and tabulation, the Government decided that the recommendation would be met by widening the scope of inquiries of this nature already made by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the outcome of which was the creation of the All Items ("C" Series) Index of Retail Prices, particulars of which are published on pp. 5, 10 and 18 27 of this Report.

The recommendations of this Commission in respect of the basic wage were not carried out, owing largely to the marked advance the amounts suggested represented over ruling rates,\* and the grave doubts expressed as to the ability of industry to pay such rates.

The standards of this wage, however, were implemented to a certain extent in the "Living Wage" declarations of the Industrial Commission of New South Wales in 1926 to 1932.

The amounts recommended were also adopted with slight modifications by the Industrial Court of Western Australia in 1926 and again in 1938 on the basis of a four-unit family, further particulars of which will be found on page 105.

\* The "Harvester" equivalent for Melbourne as at the time (September quarter, 1920) was £4 13s. per week, but only £3 18s. to £4 2s. was being paid on the basis of an annual index-number.

7. **Child Endowment.**—The Commonwealth Government, in June, 1927, called a conference at Melbourne of the Premiers of the several States to consider the question of child endowment from a national standpoint. The Prime Minister submitted various estimates of the cost of endowing dependent children under fourteen years of age in Australia at 5s. per week. After discussion, it was decided to refer the matter to a Royal Commission to be appointed by the Commonwealth Government.

The Commission submitted its report on 15th December, 1928. It was not unanimous in its findings, and the opinions and recommendations of the members were embodied in two separate reports, which dealt exhaustively with the constitutional aspects, existing systems, industrial legislation, the basic wage, standard of living, regulation of wages, working conditions and cognate matters.

The findings and recommendations in the *majority* and *minority* reports were given in Labour Report No. 19.

At the conference of Commonwealth and State Ministers held at Canberra in May, 1929, the Prime Minister stated that the Commonwealth Government was not prepared to adopt a scheme financed entirely from the proceeds of taxation, as had been recommended in the minority report. The Commonwealth Government agreed with the majority of the Commission that child endowment could not be separated from the control of the basic wage—a power which the Commonwealth did not possess and which the States were not prepared to relinquish. The Government, therefore, did not propose to establish any system of child endowment. It was generally agreed that any scheme which would increase the charges upon industry would be unwise at that particular time. The matter of child endowment was accordingly left to be dealt with as the State Governments should think proper.

Early in 1941, the Commonwealth Government announced its intention to introduce a scheme of child endowment throughout Australia. The necessary legislation\* was introduced into Parliament on 27th March, and the passage through all stages was completed on 3rd April, 1941. The scheme came into operation from 1st July, 1941. As amended to date (November, 1951) its main features are as follows:—

Any person who is a resident of Australia and has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years, or an approved institution of which children are inmates shall be qualified to receive an endowment in respect of each child.

From 20th June, 1950, the rates of endowment have been—

- (a) where the endowee has one child only, 5s. per week ;
- (b) where the endowee has two or more children—in respect of the elder or eldest child, 5s. per week and in respect of each other child 10s. per week ;
- (c) in the case of the endowee being an approved institution the rate is 10s. per week for each child inmate.

There are provisions to cover cases of families divided by reason of divorce, separation, death of a parent or other circumstances. In such cases payment may be made to the father, mother or other person.

\* Act No. 8 1941 (Child Endowment Act) as amended by No. 5, 1942 and Nos. 10 and 41, 1945 (now incorporated in Part VI. of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947–1951), Act No. 2, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act); and Act No. 3, 1941 (Pay-roll Tax Act).

A child born during the mother's temporary absence from Australia is deemed to have been born here.

There is a twelve months residential requirement for claimants and children who were not born in Australia, but this is waived if the claimant and the child are likely to remain permanently in Australia.

Endowment will be paid for the children of members of the Naval, Military or Air Forces of the United Kingdom who are serving with the Australian Forces from the time of their arrival in Australia.

From 1st July, 1941, when the scheme was introduced the rate of endowment was 5s. per week for each child in excess of one in a family and, for each child under 16 years in an approved institution, the rate being increased to 7s. 6d. a week from 25th June, 1945, and to 10s. per week from 9th November, 1948. There is no means test.

Endowment in respect of the first child under 16 years in a family was first provided for by an amendment of the legislation in June, 1950.

Consequent upon the operation of the Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme, appropriate steps were taken for the termination of existing schemes operating in New South Wales and the Commonwealth Public Service. The New South Wales system of child endowment was in operation from July, 1927 to July, 1941, and the Commonwealth Public Service system operated from November, 1920, until July, 1941. Details of these schemes appeared in earlier issues of the Labour Report (*see* No. 36, p. 103).

A summary of the operations of this scheme during the five years 1946-47 to 1950-51 is given below:—

#### Child Endowment: Australia, 1946-47 to 1950-51.

Year.	Endowed Families.		Approved Institutions.		Total Number of Endowed Children.
	Number of Families.	Number of Endowed Children.	Number of Institutions.	Number of Endowed Children.	
1946-47 ..	559,730	986,814	355	19,743	1,006,557
1947-48 ..	586,415	1,029,777	366	20,580	1,050,357
1948-49 ..	620,819	1,083,994	369	21,305	1,105,299
1949-50 ..	662,949	1,813,925	375	22,397	1,836,322
1950-51 ..	1,150,847	2,365,177	370	23,753	2,388,930

Year.	Amount Paid to Endowees and Approved Institutions.	Annual Liability for Endowment on 30th June.	Average Annual Rate of Endowment per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Average Number of Endowed Children per Endowed Family on 30th June.	Number of Endowed Children in each 10,000 of Population.
	£	£	£		
1946-47 ..	19,862,933	19,627,862	34.379	1.763	1,3.8
1947-48 ..	19,425,518	20,481,961	34.243	1.757	1,362
1948-49 ..	24,323,413	28,737,774	45.398	1.746	1,397
1949-50 ..	30,337,363	39,126,035	58.139	2.736	2,243
1950-51 ..	43,584,614	47,151,169	40.434	2.055	2,834

## CHAPTER IV.—EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

## § 1. Employment.

1. **General.**—Data on which this section is based are divided into three main categories: (a) Censuses, 1933 and 1947, and quasi-censuses; (b) monthly returns for Pay-roll Tax purposes, supplemented by regular collections of Government employment; and (c) reports from Trade Union secretaries.

The first quasi-census was the National Register, July, 1939. It covered males aged 18-64 years and, supplemented by other data, provided estimates for July, 1939. The Civilian Register, June, 1943, and Occupation Survey, June, 1945, covered civilians aged 14 years and over and were supplemented by records of the Defence Forces.

Pay-roll Tax returns first became available in July, 1941.

2. **Total Occupied Persons.**—(i) *Australia.*—The estimates in the table below are divided into three categories (a) Defence Forces; (b) all persons fully occupied as employers, or self-employed in businesses or on farms; and (c) wage or salary earners fully employed, or occupied as casual, part-time, intermittent or seasonal wage earners. Unemployed wage earners are excluded.

Male unpaid "helpers" in rural industry, who numbered about 35,000 in June, 1933, and about 21,000 in June, 1947, have been included with employers and self-employed persons, as it is considered that the majority of these are sons or other close relatives of farmers working in an unofficial partnership or as learners with the farm owner. Unpaid "helpers" in other industries, who numbered about 6,000 males and 4,000 females in June, 1933, have been included with wage and salary earners. Unpaid female "helpers" on farms are very numerous, some 22,000 being shown on Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics returns for March, 1947. Generally they are occupied mainly in home duties. All women occupied in unpaid home duties have been excluded from the category of occupied persons.

Statistics of net enlistments in the Defence Forces shown in the table below represent total enlistments for full-time duty less deaths and discharges. Prior to December, 1941, men in certain age-groups were called up for short training courses but these men are excluded from the figures. In July, 1941, the number of such men was approximately 50,000.

## Total Occupied Persons : Australia, 1933 to 1947.

('000.)

Year and Month.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (a)	Employers and Self-employed Persons.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces. (a)
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
MALES.									
1933—June..	5.8	292.4	248.3	540.7	200.0	992.0	1192.0	1732.7	1738.5
1939—July..	12.9	300.0	299.0	599.0	202.0	1293.1	1495.1	2094.1	2107.0
1941—July..	282.8 <i>b</i>	284.0	208.0	492.0	188.0	1363.4	1551.4	2043.4	2326.2
1943—June..	685.0	262.0	150.0	412.0	120.9	1273.2	1394.1	1806.1	2491.1
1945—June(c)	603.5	287.5	187.1	474.6	130.2	1294.2	1424.4	1899.0	2502.5
1947—June..	53.2	278.9	286.8	565.7	148.2	d1649.4	d1797.6	d2363.3	d2416.5

See footnotes on following page.

## Total Occupied Persons : Australia, 1933 to 1947—continued.

('000.)

Year and Month	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (a)	Employers and Self-employed Persons.			Wage and Salary Earners.			Total Occupied Civilians.	Total Occupied Persons including Forces. (a)
		Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.	Rural Industry.	Other Industries.	Total.		
FEMALES.									
					(e)				
1933—June..	..	15.1	56.2	71.3	4.4	447.5	451.9	523.2	523.2
1939—July..	..	16.0	62.0	78.0	4.0	561.6	565.6	643.6	643.6
1941—July..	1.8	14.0	56.8	70.8	6.0	656.2	662.2	733.0	734.8
1943—June..	44.0	11.7	34.4	46.1	28.1	682.1	710.2	756.3	800.3
1945—June(c)	45.4	17.0	43.1	60.1	23.0	667.1	690.1	750.2	795.6
1947—June..	0.8	13.8	55.8	69.6	8.1	d659.9	d668.0	d737.6	d738.4
PERSONS.									
1933—June..	5.8	307.5	304.5	612.0	204.4	1439.5	1643.9	2255.9	2261.7
1939—July..	12.9	316.0	361.0	677.0	206.0	1854.7	2060.7	2737.7	2750.6
1941—July..	284.6b	298.0	264.8	562.8	194.0	2019.6	2213.6	2776.4	3061.0
1943—June..	729.0	273.7	184.4	458.1	149.0	1955.3	2104.3	2562.4	3291.4
1945—June(c)	648.9	304.5	230.2	534.7	153.2	1961.3	2114.5	2649.2	3298.1
1947—June..	54.0	292.7	342.6	635.3	156.3	d2309.3	d2465.6	d3100.9	d3154.9

(a) Includes those serving outside Australia. (b) Excludes approximately 50,000 men called up for short training courses. (c) 1st June, 1945 (Occupation Survey). (d) Preliminary estimate, subject to revision. (e) Includes females, in thousands, in private domestic service as follows:—106.7 in June, 1933; 124.5 in July, 1939; 100.0 in July, 1941; 41.5 in June, 1943; 47.6 in June, 1945; 40.3 in June, 1947.

The numbers of persons in the Defence Forces in June, 1947, shown in the foregoing table include those serving outside Australia who were omitted from the Census taken in that month. The numbers of employers and self-employed persons and wage and salary earners in rural industry are in accordance with the final results of the Census. Estimates, based on Pay-roll Tax returns, &c., are shown in the table above for wage and salary earners employed in industries other than rural. The estimate of 659,900 female wage and salary earners employed in non-rural industries includes 40,300 private domestics (the figure from the June, 1947, Census). The remaining 619,600 females in the estimate include females working part-time. The 1947 Census figure for the same industries (i.e. excluding rural and private domestic) was 579,200. Persons working regularly but for considerably less than normal working hours were instructed on the Census Schedule to exclude themselves from the work force, unless their earnings from such work formed their principal means of livelihood.

From June, 1933, to July, 1939, the number of occupied persons of both sexes increased by 488,900, due to the increase of 223,700 in the number of persons available and offering for gainful occupation and to the decrease of 265,200 in the number unemployed from 563,200 to 298,000.

During the war years from July, 1939, to June, 1943, the total labour force increased by 268,600. The Defence Forces absorbed 716,000 drawn from the following sources:—

- (a) Net decrease in number of occupied civilians—175,000;
- (b) Decrease in unemployment—272,000;
- (c) Net expansion of total labour force—269,000.

Based on the pre-war trends, it was estimated that item (c) above included about 180,000 persons whose entry into the labour force could be attributed solely to war-time conditions.

The total labour force expanded by 37,000 between June, 1943 and June, 1945, males and females both increasing. During 1945-46 and 1946-47, as demobilization of the Defence Forces progressed, there was a rapid increase

in the number of occupied civilians, but the effective labour force is estimated to have decreased by 105,200 (males 51,800; females, 53,400). The decrease was due mainly to two factors—firstly, retirement of some persons who entered the Defence Forces or civilian employment solely on account of war conditions and who normally would not have sought gainful employment; secondly, entry into full-time training courses of ex-Service personnel.

From July, 1939, to June, 1943, persons occupied in rural industry declined from 522,000 to 422,700 and recovered to about 449,000 in June, 1947.

The numbers occupied in industries other than rural were 2,215,700 in July, 1939; 2,139,700 in June, 1943; 2,191,500 in June, 1945; and 2,651,900 in June, 1947. Employers and self-employed persons in these industries decreased from 361,000 in July, 1939, to 184,400 in June, 1943, partly as a result of enlistments in the Defence Forces but chiefly as a result of changing to wage or salary earning. By June, 1947, employers and self-employed persons had increased to 342,600.

(ii) *States.*—The following table shows total occupied males and females in each State in July, 1939, and June, 1947, divided into Defence Forces, Employers and Self-employed Persons and Wage and Salary Earners.

**Total Occupied Persons—States—July, 1939 and June, 1947.**  
(‘000.)

State.	Defence Forces (Net Enlistments). (a)		Employers and Self-employed Persons.		Wage and Salary Earners.		Total Occupied Persons including Forces.	
	July, 1939.	June, 1947.	July, 1939.	June, 1947.	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (b)	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (b)
<b>MALES.</b>								
New South Wales ..	4.9	23.1	216.2	197.5	596.2	723.6	817.3	944.2
Victoria ..	4.4	15.9	162.9	158.1	399.5	480.9	566.8	654.9
Queensland ..	1.0	5.9	95.1	96.9	218.6	255.4	314.7	358.2
South Australia ..	1.1	2.6	54.6	51.8	127.7	154.4	183.4	208.8
Western Australia ..	1.0	3.4	47.4	39.8	99.7	115.6	148.1	158.8
Tasmania ..	0.5	0.8	21.5	20.1	46.9	58.1	68.9	79.0
<b>FEMALES.</b>								
New South Wales ..	..	0.3	28.4	25.4	220.8	268.8	249.2	294.5
Victoria ..	..	0.4	25.5	22.4	175.3	203.4	200.8	226.2
Queensland ..	..	0.1	11.1	10.2	71.2	83.2	82.3	93.5
South Australia ..	..	..	6.0	5.2	47.4	52.9	53.4	58.1
Western Australia ..	..	..	4.8	4.3	33.2	38.4	38.0	42.7
Tasmania ..	..	..	2.2	1.9	16.3	19.0	18.5	20.9
<b>PERSONS.</b>								
New South Wales ..	4.9	23.4	244.6	222.9	817.0	992.4	1066.5	1,238.7
Victoria ..	4.4	16.3	188.4	180.5	574.8	684.3	767.6	881.1
Queensland ..	1.0	6.0	106.2	107.1	289.8	338.6	397.0	451.7
South Australia ..	1.1	2.6	60.6	57.0	175.1	207.3	236.8	266.9
Western Australia ..	1.0	3.4	52.2	44.1	132.9	154.0	186.1	201.5
Tasmania ..	0.5	0.8	23.7	22.0	63.2	77.1	87.4	99.9

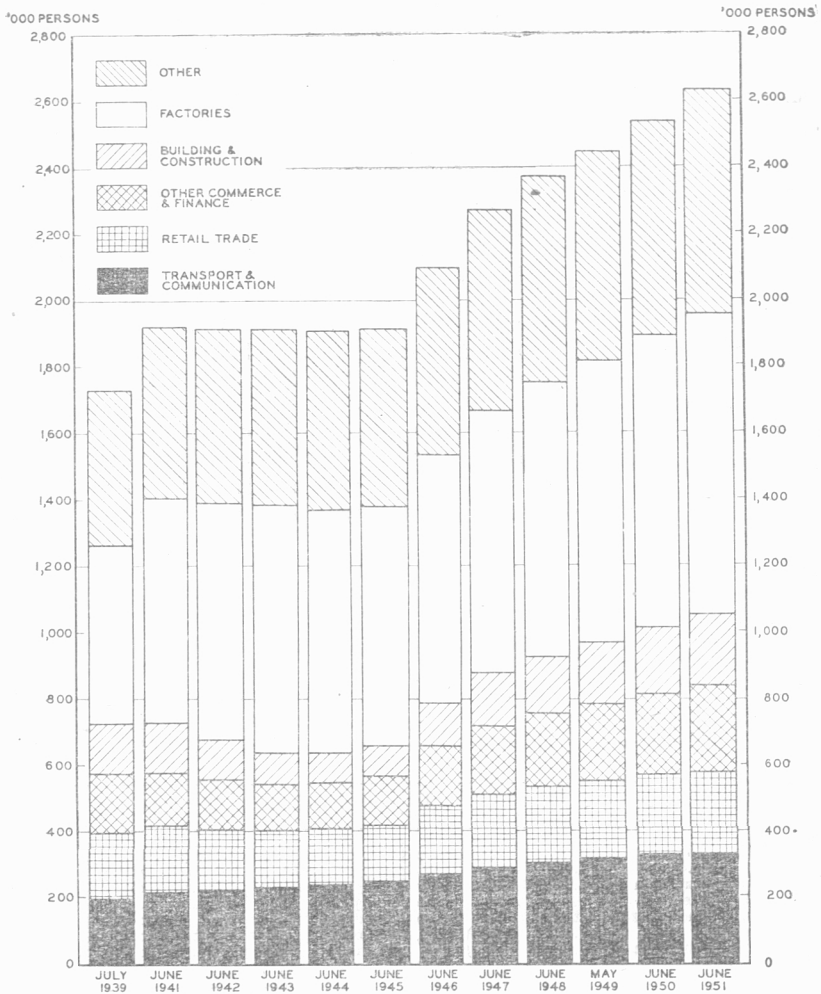
(a) Includes those serving outside Australia.

(b) Preliminary figures subject to revision.

Between July, 1939, and June, 1947, the occupied population of Australia (including Defence Forces but excluding unemployed, pensioners, retired, persons of independent means and dependants) increased by approximately 14.7 per cent. The proportionate increase in each State was as follows: New South Wales, 16.1; Victoria, 14.8; Queensland, 13.8; South Australia, 12.7; Western Australia, 8.3; Tasmania, 14.3.

# Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Australia, 1939 to 1951 by main Industrial Groups.

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic Workers.)



(See par. 3, page 114),



### 3. Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment—(i) *Australia* :

**Industrial Groups.**—Estimates are made monthly of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding employees in rural industry and female domestics in private homes), based on Pay-roll Tax returns and returns of Government employment. Pay-roll returns cover only a small proportion of wage earners on rural holdings, and practically no private domestic servants. It is not possible to obtain actual numbers of farm employees and private domestic servants except when a Census or quasi-Census such as Occupation Survey (1st June, 1945) is taken, but estimates have been made from time to time using available data. The next table shows the trend in that section of wage and salary earning employment which it is possible to estimate monthly. Figures given as at July, 1939 are based on the National Register. From July, 1941 (commencement of Pay-roll Tax returns), the estimates are available for each month, and the table shows the level in June of the years 1947 and 1948, in May, 1949, and in June, 1950 and 1951. Figures for June, 1949, were affected by the Australia-wide black coal dispute which commenced on 27th June, and ended on 15th August, 1949, and figures for May have therefore been substituted for purposes of annual comparison. (Current figures are published in the *Monthly Bulletin of Employment Statistics*.)

The table shows total male and female wage and salary earners in civil employment (excluding employees in rural industry, female private domestics, and persons on the paid strength of the Defence Forces) subdivided to show the extent of employment provided by Governmental authorities and by private employers respectively. Principal industrial groups shown in the table include both private employees and Government employees, if any. The manufacturing employment figures in this table are not comparable as to either absolute level or trend with those shown on pages 117-118 below.

#### Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Industrial Groups: Australia, 1939 to 1951.

(*Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces.*)

('000.)

Industrial Group.	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (a)	June, 1948. (a)	May, 1949. (a)(b)	June, 1950. (a)	June, 1951. (a)
MALES.						
Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	52.2	51.0	52.7	52.3	53.9	55.8
Manufacturing, etc.(c) .. .. .	456.1	653.9	680.5	692.6	716.4	733.0
Building and Construction .. .. .	149.7	155.7	167.8	180.9	197.2	212.7
Rail and Air Transport .. .. .	73.0	93.9	96.5	99.1	100.9	100.9
Other Transport and Communication .. .. .	112.9	162.5	173.4	182.6	191.9	193.8
Retail Trade .. .. .	259.7	116.0	123.3	125.6	127.1	129.7
Other Commerce and Finance .. .. .		151.9	161.7	169.9	178.0	188.4
Health .. .. .		17.8	23.2	24.5	24.7	24.8
Education .. .. .	22.1	27.4	28.6	29.7	30.7	31.9
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation .. .. .	17.4	17.1	17.7	18.4	18.0	18.0
Personal Services .. .. .	37.0	50.3	52.9	54.4	55.9	54.6
Other .. .. .	95.2	146.5	151.3	156.9	163.9	167.9
Total .. .. .	1,293.1	1,649.4	1,730.9	1,787.1	1,858.7	1,911.5
Governmental (d) .. .. .	349.8	472.0	494.4	518.9	553.5	570.4
Private Employers .. .. .	943.3	1,177.4	1,236.5	1,268.2	1,305.2	1,341.1
Total .. .. .	1,293.1	1,649.4	1,730.9	1,787.1	1,858.7	1,911.5

See footnotes on following page.

**Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment, Industrial Groups :  
Australia, 1939 to 1951—continued.**

*(Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, and  
Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces).*

('000.)

Industrial Group.	July, 1939.	June, 1947. (a)	June, 1948. (a)	May, 1949. (a)(b)	June, 1950. (a)	June, 1951. (a)
FEMALES.						
Mining and Quarrying .. .. .	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8
Manufacturing, etc.(c) .. .	169.0	208.0	213.9	221.9	230.4	241.1
Building and Construction .. .	1.2	2.6	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.8
Rail and Air Transport .. .	2.5	7.2	7.8	8.0	8.0	8.2
Other Transport and Communication .. .	10.1	25.2	27.2	29.0	30.8	31.9
Retail Trade .. .	114.9	104.0	109.3	111.1	113.3	119.1
Other Commerce and Finance .. .						
Health .. .						
Education .. .	34.0	55.8	59.6	62.0	65.0	67.4
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation .. .	32.0	36.3	37.1	37.7	39.1	39.7
Personal Services .. .	4.0	8.2	8.4	8.8	8.4	8.7
Other... ..	43.0	69.3	70.4	71.3	72.8	72.1
	26.1	49.5	49.9	50.7	51.6	54.7
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>437.1</b>	<b>619.6</b>	<b>644.6</b>	<b>664.1</b>	<b>688.2</b>	<b>718.8</b>
Governmental (d) .. .	55.2	92.1	94.9	99.2	107.6	113.8
Private Employers .. .	381.9	527.5	549.1	564.9	580.6	605.0
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>437.1</b>	<b>619.6</b>	<b>644.0</b>	<b>664.1</b>	<b>688.2</b>	<b>718.8</b>
PERSONS.						
Mining and Quarrying .. .	52.5	51.5	53.3	53.0	54.6	56.6
Manufacturing, etc.(c) .. .	625.1	861.9	894.4	914.5	946.8	974.1
Building and Construction .. .	150.9	158.3	170.7	184.0	200.5	216.5
Rail and Air Transport .. .	75.5	101.1	104.3	107.1	108.5	109.1
Other Transport and Communication .. .	120.0	187.7	200.6	211.6	222.9	225.7
Retail Trade .. .	374.6	220.0	232.6	236.7	240.4	248.8
Other Commerce and Finance .. .						
Health .. .						
Education .. .	51.8	79.0	84.1	86.7	89.8	92.2
Entertainment, Sport and Recreation .. .	54.1	63.7	65.7	67.4	69.8	71.6
Personal Services .. .	21.4	25.3	26.1	27.2	26.4	26.7
Other... ..	80.0	119.6	123.3	125.7	128.7	126.7
	121.3	196.0	201.2	207.6	215.5	222.6
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,730.2</b>	<b>2,269.0</b>	<b>2,374.9</b>	<b>2,451.2</b>	<b>2,546.9</b>	<b>2,630.3</b>
Governmental(d) .. .	405.0	564.1	589.3	618.1	661.1	684.2
Private Employers .. .	1,325.2	1,704.9	1,785.6	1,833.1	1,885.8	1,946.1
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,730.2</b>	<b>2,269.0</b>	<b>2,374.9</b>	<b>2,451.2</b>	<b>2,546.9</b>	<b>2,630.3</b>

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Figures for May, 1949, have been used for purposes of annual comparison because of the effects of the coal dispute in June, 1949. (c) Estimates (subject to revision) based on Pay-roll Tax returns, etc., of employees predominantly engaged in secondary production. The figures include a considerable number of employees outside the scope of the factory employment figures as defined and published on pages 117-118 below. (d) Includes employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

During the year ended June, 1951, the total increase in numbers of wage and salary earners in employment (excluding rural wage earners, female domestics in private homes and Defence Forces) was 83,400 (males 52,800 ; females 30,600), of whom 60,300 were absorbed by private employers and 23,100 by public authorities, mainly for works and services such as transport, post and telegraph, education, etc.

During this period employment increased in all industrial groups except personal services. Manufacturing, &c., increased by 27,300, Building and Construction by 16,000, Transport and Communication 3,200, Retail Trade 8,400, other Commerce and Finance 16,900 and Health Services 2,400.

(ii) *States*.—Statistics of total employment of wage and salary earners (excluding rural and female private domestic employment and Defence Forces) since 1933 are shown for each State in the next table.

**Wage and Salary Earners in Civilian Employment : States, 1933 to 1951.**

(*Excluding Rural Wage Earners, Female Domestics in Private Homes, and Persons on Paid Strength of Defence Forces.*)

( '000.)

Year and Month.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia. (a)
MALES.							
1933—June ..	380.6	288.6	139.8	80.5	70.1	29.0	992.0
1939—July ..	529.9	357.5	172.8	106.7	82.9	37.4	1293.1
1941—November	556.8	405.1	167.9	121.0	83.2	39.4	1381.4
1947—June(b) ..	671.8	452.6	220.2	140.9	103.9	51.1	1649.4
1948—June(b) ..	702.3	473.3	232.6	149.0	109.2	54.5	1730.9
1949—May(b)(c) ..	721.4	489.3	239.8	155.0	112.8	57.4	1787.1
1950—June(b) ..	740.8	510.7	250.4	165.7	120.5	58.4	1858.7
1951—June(b) ..	758.2	525.8	259.3	170.0	125.3	60.2	1911.5
FEMALES.							
1933—June ..	125.8	118.2	40.5	26.0	20.6	9.1	340.8
1939—July ..	168.0	142.9	53.2	34.0	26.2	11.6	437.1
1941—November	229.3	192.8	62.6	45.6	32.6	15.2	579.8
1947—June(b) ..	252.1	190.5	74.5	48.0	35.6	16.9	619.6
1948—June(b) ..	261.9	196.7	77.9	50.1	37.0	18.0	644.0
1949—May(b)(c) ..	269.9	202.5	80.1	52.2	37.8	18.8	664.1
1950—June(b) ..	278.5	210.0	83.1	54.3	39.9	19.4	688.2
1951—June (b) ..	290.9	219.6	86.1	57.0	41.6	20.3	718.8
PERSONS.							
1933—June ..	506.4	406.8	180.3	106.5	90.7	38.1	1332.8
1939—July ..	697.9	500.4	226.0	140.7	109.1	49.0	1730.2
1941—November	786.1	597.9	230.5	167.5	115.8	54.6	1961.2
1947—June(b) ..	923.9	643.1	294.7	188.9	139.5	68.0	2269.0
1948—June(b) ..	964.2	670.0	310.5	199.1	146.2	72.5	2374.9
1949—May(b)(c) ..	991.3	691.8	319.9	207.2	150.6	76.2	2451.2
1950—June(b) ..	1019.3	720.7	333.5	220.0	160.4	77.8	2546.9
1951—June (b) ..	1049.1	745.2	345.4	227.0	166.9	80.5	2630.3

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory.

(b) Subject to revision.

(c) See note (b) to table on page 115.

In all States except Queensland employment of male wage and salary earners in civilian work, excluding rural, was higher in November, 1941, than at the outbreak of war. The male employment level then commenced to decrease and continued to do so in most States until the second quarter of 1943-44. In Queensland, however, the downward movement was very slight. There was then a general, though slight, upward trend (except in South Australia) until the end of the war. Demobilization of the Defence Forces resulted in a rapid increase in male employment in all States in 1945-46 and 1946-47. Male employment in each State continued to increase during each of the next four years, but at a lower rate.

After the outbreak of war, female wage and salary earners (excluding rural workers and domestics in private homes) increased rapidly in all States. The peak level during the war (646,000) was reached in December, 1943. From June to December, 1943, there was only a slight total increase. Victoria and South Australia had already passed their respective peaks of female employment. In January, 1946, female employment reached its lowest level (588,400) since January, 1942, having declined in all States after the end of the war, particularly in Victoria and South Australia. Since January, 1946, female employment has increased in all States and in May, 1949, had passed the war-time peak.

(iii) *Factories*.—In the following table is shown the mid-year number of employees in the main factory classes in each of the years 1948 to 1951 compared with 1939. The figures refer to the estimated employment in factories as defined for the purposes of the annual production census, results of which are published annually in the *Production Bulletin*, Part I., Secondary Industries. In this connexion a factory is defined as an industrial establishment in which four or more hands are employed, or in which power, other than hand, is used. The employees covered are those engaged in manufacturing activities and exclude working proprietors and those engaged in selling and distribution, etc.

**Employment in Factories according to Main Classes : Australia, June, 1939 to 1951.**  
(’000.)

Class of Factory.	No. of Employees in June—				
	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
<b>MALES.</b>					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products .. .. .	9.8	13.4	14.6	16.1	17.1
Bricks, Pottery, Glass .. .. .	14.3	16.5	17.4	18.3	18.9
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc. .. .. .	14.6	24.4	25.3	26.6	27.9
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc. .. .. .	161.6	289.1	295.7	316.3	330.3
Jewellery, Watches, etc. .. .. .	2.8	4.6	4.9	5.0	4.6
Textiles (including knitted goods) .. .. .	18.3	29.8	29.5	29.7	30.6
Skins and Leather .. .. .	8.0	11.7	11.5	12.2	11.1
Clothing (including shoes) .. .. .	19.1	28.2	29.5	29.4	30.3
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .. .	57.6	82.4	85.5	85.4	87.9
Sawmilling and Woodworking .. .. .	27.5	42.3	45.5	47.6	50.9
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc. .. .. .	11.2	14.9	15.6	16.8	18.0
Paper, Printing, etc. .. .. .	26.7	34.1	36.3	38.0	39.1
Rubber .. .. .	4.9	9.0	9.5	10.2	10.7
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures .. .. .	5.4	12.3	12.6	12.7	13.2
Heat, Light and Power .. .. .	9.2	12.3	13.0	13.4	14.1
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>391.0</b>	<b>625.0</b>	<b>646.4</b>	<b>677.7</b>	<b>704.7</b>
<b>FEMALES.</b>					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products .. .. .	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.7
Bricks, Pottery, Glass .. .. .	0.8	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc. .. .. .	5.7	7.8	7.9	8.6	9.2
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc. .. .. .	9.4	28.5	30.2	34.9	39.1
Jewellery, Watches, etc. .. .. .	0.5	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2
Textiles (including knitted goods) .. .. .	27.2	32.7	35.0	36.7	38.8
Skins and Leather .. .. .	2.5	3.5	3.6	4.0	3.7
Clothing (including shoes) .. .. .	61.3	79.5	83.2	84.0	87.7
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .. .	20.9	27.6	29.2	30.4	31.0
Sawmilling and Woodworking .. .. .	0.9	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.4
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc. .. .. .	2.7	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.5
Paper, Printing, etc. .. .. .	11.6	12.9	13.8	14.3	15.3
Rubber .. .. .	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.8	3.0
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures .. .. .	2.4	6.1	6.3	6.9	7.0
Heat, Light and Power .. .. .	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>148.6</b>	<b>208.0</b>	<b>219.6</b>	<b>231.2</b>	<b>244.3</b>

**Employment in Factories according to Main Classes : Australia,  
June, 1939 to 1951—continued.**

('000.)

Class of Factory.	No. of Employees in June—				
	1939.	1948.	1949.	1950.	1951.
PERSONS.					
Treatment of Non-metalliferous Mine and Quarry Products .. .. .	10.0	13.9	15.1	16.7	17.8
Bricks, Pottery, Glass .. .. .	15.1	17.7	18.7	19.8	20.5
Chemicals, Oils, Paints, etc. .. .. .	20.3	32.2	33.2	35.2	37.1
Metals, Machines, Vehicles, etc. .. .. .	171.0	317.6	325.9	351.2	369.4
Jewellery, Watches, etc. .. .. .	3.3	5.5	5.9	6.1	5.8
Textiles (including knitted goods) .. .. .	45.5	62.5	64.5	66.4	69.4
Skins and Leather .. .. .	10.5	15.2	15.1	16.2	14.8
Clothing (including shoes) .. .. .	80.4	107.7	112.7	113.4	118.0
Food, Drink and Tobacco .. .. .	78.5	110.0	114.7	115.8	118.9
Sawmilling and Woodworking .. .. .	28.4	44.1	47.5	49.7	53.3
Cabinet Making, Furniture, etc. .. .. .	13.9	17.5	18.5	20.0	21.5
Paper, Printing, etc. .. .. .	38.3	47.0	50.1	52.3	54.4
Rubber .. .. .	7.2	11.3	12.1	13.0	13.7
Musical Instruments and Miscellaneous Manufactures .. .. .	7.8	18.4	18.9	19.6	20.2
Heat, Light and Power .. .. .	9.4	12.4	13.1	13.5	14.2
Total .. .. .	539.6	833.0	866.0	908.9	949.0

## § 2. Unemployment.

1. **Total Persons Unemployed.**—The total number of persons unemployed has been recorded only at the dates of the various censuses. The following table sets out the number of unemployed at the Censuses of 1911, 1921, 1933 and 1947, the National Register, 1939, and the Occupation Survey, 1945. The percentage which the unemployed bore at each date to all wage and salary earners, comprising those estimated to be in employment and those unemployed, is also shown.

### Unemployment (All Causes): Australia.

Year and Month.	Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.			Percentage of Wage and Salary Earners Unemployed.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	'000.	'000.	'000.	%	%	%
1911—April (Census)	48.0	8.3	56.3	4.3	2.7	4.0
1921—April .. .. .	139.4	21.5	160.9	10.7	5.7	9.6
1933—June (a) .. .. .	460.2	103.1	563.3	27.9	19.1	25.8
1939—July (b) .. .. .	264.0	34.0	298.0	15.0	5.7	12.6
1945—June (c) .. .. .	39.9	16.2	56.1	2.7	2.3	2.6
1947—June (Census) (d)	66.0	16.8	82.8	3.5	2.5	3.2

(a) The figures shown for 1933 are in excess of those actually recorded at the Census, an allowance having been made for a number of youths and girls who would normally have been wage and salary earners, but who, on account of the economic depression, having never been employed, were not classed as wage and salary earners. (b) Derived from National Register, 1939. (c) Derived from Occupation Survey, 1945. (d) Persons in the work force who were not at work at the time of the Census.

The estimates and percentages of unemployment given above for periods subsequent to the Census of 1933 should be interpreted in conjunction with the notes below.

The estimates for 1939 were based on the National Register, which covered males aged 18-64 years, and data available from other sources. The proportion of wage earners unemployed in July, 1939, immediately prior to the 1939-45 War, was estimated at approximately 12½ per cent. In July, 1941, it was about 4 per cent. and by June, 1943, under conditions of intensive mobilization of manpower for war purposes involuntary unemployment was practically nil. Owing to the use on the Occupation Survey (1945) card of the definition "a person normally working for wages but without a job on 1st June", it appears that the 1945 figures exclude some persons who were temporarily absent from their jobs at the date of the survey. Of the numbers at the 1947 Census shown above, 25.6 per cent. were not at work owing to sickness or accident and 26.6 per cent. stated that they were resting. Of the latter, approximately half said they expected to resume their former jobs. The numbers in need of financial relief on account of unemployment in June, 1947, were quite small. Details of unemployment benefits are shown in § 5.

**2. Unemployment in Trade Unions.**—(i) *General.*—The collection by this Bureau of information relating to unemployment amongst trade unionists was initiated in 1912, when special inquiries were forwarded to officials of trade unions throughout Australia for particulars for that year, and for information relating to previous years, as far back as 1891.

Since 1913, information concerning the extent of unemployment of trade unionists has been collected at quarterly periods, and the results of the investigations have been published in the *Official Year Book*, *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*, and the *Labour Report*. The percentages of unemployment derived from Trade Union returns are an indication of the trend of unemployment amongst trade unionists as estimated or recorded by the secretaries of trade unions which supply returns. The membership of the unions furnishing regular reports exceeds 840,000, consisting predominantly of males and representing about 52 per cent. of the total trade union membership, and between 25 and 30 per cent. of all wage and salary earners. Unemployment returns are not collected from unions whose members are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, etc.). Very few of the unions pay unemployment benefit, but the majority of the larger organizations have permanent secretaries and organizers who are closely in touch with the members and with the state of trade within their particular industries. In some cases unemployment registers are kept, and provision is made in the rules for payment of reduced subscriptions by members out of work.

Seasonal fluctuations in unemployment have been recorded by collecting returns quarterly since 1st January, 1913. The quarterly figures show the number of persons who were out of work for three days or more during a specified week in each quarter: they include persons out of work through sickness but exclude persons out of work through strikes and lock-outs except those outside the industry who are indirectly affected. The yearly figures quoted (including percentages) represent the average of the four quarters.

(ii) *Australia, 1891 to 1951 (June Quarter).*—The following table gives particulars for Australia for the years 1891 to 1951 (June Quarter) in respect of:—

- (a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available; (b) The number of members of such unions; (c) The number of members unemployed; and (d) The percentage of members unemployed on total number of members.

Unemployment in Trade Unions : Australia.

Period.	Unions.	Number of Members.	Members Unemployed.	
			Number.	Percentage.
1891 (end of year) ..	25	6,445	599	9.3
1896 " " ..	25	4,227	457	10.8
1901 " " ..	39	8,710	574	6.6
1906 " " ..	47	11,299	753	6.7
1911 " " ..	160	67,961	3,171	4.7
1916 (average for year) ..	473	290,075	16,783	5.8
1921 " " ..	449	361,744	40,549	11.2
1926 " " ..	374	415,397	29,326	7.1
1931 " " ..	397	430,004	117,866	27.4
1932 " " ..	395	415,434	120,454	29.0 (a)
1936 " " ..	392	441,311	53,992	12.2
1938 " " ..	390	466,325	40,138	8.6
1939 " " ..	396	476,918	45,967	9.7
1940 " " ..	394	491,352	39,116	8.0
1941 " " ..	395	536,660	20,013	3.7
1942 " " ..	394	613,534	9,754	1.6
1943 " " ..	390	678,713	7,545	1.1
1944 " " ..	389	681,684	8,073	1.2
1945 " " ..	388	673,750	7,864	1.2
1946 " " ..	383	672,121	9,125	1.4
1947 " " ..	381	718,096	8,432	1.2
1948 " " ..	380	761,104	6,533	0.9
1949 " " ..	377	790,630	(b) 15,342	(b) 2.0
1950 " " ..	375	827,106	6,654	0.8
1947 March Quarter ..	381	699,155	9,880	1.4
June " " ..	381	713,455	9,240	1.3
September " " ..	381	725,286	7,970	1.1
December " " ..	381	734,489	6,637	0.9
1948 March " " ..	381	744,901	6,484	0.9
June " " ..	381	752,222	6,549	0.9
September " " ..	380	769,959	6,813	0.9
December " " ..	380	777,332	6,287	0.8
1949 March " " ..	380	785,468	5,898	0.8
June " " ..	380	792,428	6,337	0.8
September " " ..	373	776,195	(b) 43,030	(b) 5.5
December " " ..	375	808,428	6,103	0.8
1950 March " " ..	375	822,464	6,963	0.8
June " " ..	375	819,331	6,361	0.8
September " " ..	375	828,094	7,038	0.8
December " " ..	374	838,536	6,253	0.7
1951 March " " ..	374	848,571	5,543	0.7
June " " ..	374	848,929	6,612	0.8

(a) Highest on record.

(b) Includes all members of reporting unions indirectly affected by the dispute in the coal mining industry; those directly affected are, however, excluded.

(iii) *Australia, by Industries, 1950.*—The next table shows the percentages unemployed in industrial groups. Industries or occupations in which employment is stable, such as railways, and those which are subject to exceptional fluctuations, such as wharf labour, agricultural, pastoral, etc., are not included. Other occupations—domestic, hotel employees, etc.—are included in the "Other and Miscellaneous" group, as their returns are not sufficiently representative. The figures are averages for the year.

Unemployment in Trade Unions, Industrial Groups : Australia, 1950.

Industrial Group.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Members.	Percentage.
Manufacturing—				
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	16	27,038	118	0.4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	58	222,261	588	0.3
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	54	50,541	982	1.9
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	22	67,825	610	0.9
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	12	28,732	48	0.2
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	62	63,615	1,024	1.6
VII. Building ..	46	92,662	974	1.1
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	17	24,639	868	3.5
X. Land Transport other than Railway and Tramway Services	13	51,993	373	0.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ..	75	197,801	1,068	0.5
All Groups ..	375	827,106	6,654	0.8

(iv) *Australia, by Industries, September Quarter, 1939, and Quarterly, September, 1949 to June, 1951.*—The following table gives for various industrial groups the percentages of members of trade unions returned as unemployed from the September quarter of 1949 to the June quarter of 1951. The percentage of unemployed in the September quarter 1939 is also inserted for purposes of comparison.

Unemployment in Trade Unions : Percentages by Industries, Australia.

Industrial Group.	1939.	1949.		1950.				1951.	
	Sept. Qtr.	Sept. Qtr. (a)	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.	Sept. Qtr.	Dec. Qtr.	March Qtr.	June Qtr.
Manufacturing—									
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. . .	18.1	8.7	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. . .	8.6	5.4	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. . .	18.4	6.5	1.2	1.9	1.8	2.5	1.5	1.4	1.3
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. . .	13.3	20.5	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.6	0.7
V. Books, Printing, etc. . .	5.1	1.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
VI. Other Manufacturing . .	9.9	7.2	1.7	1.6	1.1	1.7	2.1	1.8	1.8
VII. Building . .	9.3	1.7	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.0
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. . .	12.6	4.1	2.2	3.0	4.2	3.4	3.5	3.2	2.9
X. Other Land Transport . .	8.7	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.7
IX., XI., XII., XIII., and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous . .	7.4	2.4	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.8
AUSTRALIA . . . .	10.2	5.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8

(a) See note (b) on page 120.

(v) *States, 1950.*—In making interstate comparisons of unemployment percentages, allowance must be made for the circumstance that the industries included in the returns from trade unions are not quite identical in the various States, and that for some States the returns are more representative than for others. The State percentages shown below,



therefore, should not be read as indicating the relative degree of unemployment amongst unionists in the individual States but as an indication of the trend of unemployment within each State as estimated or recorded by secretaries of those Trade Unions which supply returns. The figures in the following table are averages for the year 1950.

Unemployment in Trade Unions : 1950.

State.	Unions Reporting.		Unemployed.	
	Number.	Members.	Number.	Percentage.
New South Wales .. ..	106	347,699	3,514	1.0
Victoria .. ..	74	228,723	1,523	0.7
Queensland .. ..	43	104,006	342	0.4
South Australia .. ..	53	76,326	643	0.9
Western Australia .. ..	65	50,250	515	1.1
Tasmania .. ..	34	20,103	117	0.6
Australia .. ..	375	827,106	6,654	0.8

(vi) *States, 1932 to 1950 and Quarterly, March, 1948 to June, 1951.*—The results of the quarterly investigations as to unemployment in the years 1913 to December, 1947, were published in previous issues of this Report and in the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. The following table shows for each State the percentage of members of trade unions returned as unemployed for the years 1932 to 1950 and quarterly from March, 1948 to June, 1951 :—

Unemployment in Trade Unions : Percentages.

Period.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Australia
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1932 (Average for year) ..	32.5	26.5	18.8	34.0	29.5	25.9	29.0
1933 " " ..	28.9	22.3	15.3	29.9	24.8	18.6	25.1
1934 " " ..	24.7	17.4	11.7	25.6	17.8	17.4	20.5
1935 " " ..	20.6	14.0	8.7	17.6	13.4	13.2	16.5
1936 " " ..	15.4	10.7	7.8	10.8	8.1	9.8	12.2
1937 " " ..	10.9	9.0	7.3	8.2	5.6	7.3	9.3
1938 " " ..	9.9	8.6	6.4	8.3	5.7	7.9	8.7
1939 " " ..	11.0	10.4	5.9	9.3	7.1	8.1	9.7
1940 " " ..	11.0	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.6	5.2	8.0
1941 " " ..	4.7	2.5	4.5	2.7	2.9	3.3	3.7
1942 " " ..	1.8	1.2	2.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
1943 " " ..	1.4	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.1
1944 " " ..	1.6	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.8	1.2
1945 " " ..	1.5	0.9	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.2
1946 " " ..	1.5	1.2	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.4
1947 " " ..	1.3	1.2	0.7	1.0	1.2	2.3	1.2
1948 " " ..	1.0	0.8	0.4	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.9
1949(a) " " ..	3.2	0.7	0.9	2.3	0.9	0.6	2.0
1950 " " ..	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.9	1.1	0.6	0.8
1948 March Qtr. ..	1.0	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.9
June " " ..	1.0	0.8	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.9
Sept. " " ..	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.9
Dec. " " ..	0.9	0.7	0.3	1.1	0.7	1.0	0.8
1949 March Qtr. ..	0.9	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.8
June " " ..	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.8
Sept. " (a) ..	10.2	0.9	2.7	6.5	1.3	0.7	5.5
Dec. " " ..	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8
1950 March Qtr. ..	1.1	0.7	0.3	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.8
June " " ..	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.7	1.5	0.8	0.8
Sept. " " ..	1.1	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.8
Dec. " " ..	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.7
1951 March Qtr. ..	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7
June " " ..	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.8

(a) See note (b) on page 120.

(vii) *Causes of Unemployment.*—In earlier issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing the percentage of members of unions unemployed through—(a) lack of work; (b) sickness and accident; and (c) other causes. The returns from trade unions for past years show that while the percentage unemployed through lack of work has varied considerably according to the state of trade during the period, the percentage of members unemployed through sickness and accident has remained at a fairly constant level of 0.6 per cent. Unemployment through "other causes" has been insignificant.

3. **Unemployment, Various Countries.**—In the following table, the percentage of unemployment in various countries is shown for each month of 1950. The figures are obtained chiefly from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics*, published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations. Comparisons of the relative percentages of unemployment in the countries shown in the following table should be made with caution as the statistics are of varying scope and value according to the type and sources of the data. They have greater value from the point of view of fluctuations or changes in unemployment than from that of absolute numbers or percentages.

Unemployment in various Countries during 1950.

Country.	Percentage Unemployed in Month of—												Average for Year.
	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	
Australia (a) ..	..	0.8	..	..	0.8	..	..	0.8	..	..	0.7	..	0.8
Canada (b) ..	..	..	6.1	..	..	2.8	..	1.8	..	..	2.2	..	2.2
Denmark(c) ..	18.1	14.7	9.1	7.4	4.3	3.9	4.3	3.7	5.6	5.4	7.6	19.9	8.7
Ireland (d) ..	9.4	9.8	9.4	9.1	7.9	6.6	6.2	6.4	6.1	6.5	7.0	6.9	7.6
Norway (e) ..	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.4	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.9	..	..	1.1
Sweden (f) ..	4.4	4.0	3.0	2.1	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.5	3.1	2.2
Switzerland (g) ..	4.9	4.2	2.3	1.7	1.2	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.9	3.4	1.8
United States (h) ..	7.3	7.6	6.7	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.0	3.9	3.7	3.0	3.5	3.6	5.0

(a) Returns from trade unions representing 52 per cent. of total trade union membership. (b) Estimates based on quarterly sample surveys of the labour force, each of which refers to a specific week. (c) Insured workers unemployed for more than one week. (d) Compulsory unemployment insurance returns. (e) Employment exchange returns. (f) Trade union returns. (g) Wholly unemployed. (h) Estimates based on nation-wide interviews with a given percentage of the total persons of working age, selected at random, at their places of residence.

### § 3. Commonwealth Employment Service.

The Commonwealth Employment Service was established under Section 47 of the Re-Establishment and Employment Act 1945, and under the Social Services Legislation Declaratory Act 1947.

The principal function of this Service, as set out in Section 48 of the first-mentioned Act, is to provide services and facilities in relation to employment for the benefit of persons seeking to change employment,

or to engage labour, and to provide facilities to assist in bringing about and maintaining a high and stable level of employment throughout the Commonwealth. The Act also gives the Service a number of specific functions in relation to the re-establishment of ex-servicemen.

The Service also assists in the administration of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947, as well as the Re-Employment Allowance, provided under the Re-Establishment and Employment Act for certain classes of discharged members of the Forces. All persons who wish to claim unemployment benefits or re-employment allowances must register with their residential Employment Office which is responsible for checking the claim and arranging for payment of benefit, if appropriate, and if no suitable employment can be offered to the applicant.

While advice on employment problems is a function of all employment officers, the Service maintains in each State other than New South Wales, a staff of qualified psychologists providing free vocational guidance. (In New South Wales a similar service is provided by the New South Wales Department of Labour, Industry and Social Welfare who act as agents for the Service in this regard.) While this service is available to any individual, it is provided particularly for juveniles entering employment for the first time, for ex-servicemen, and for physically and mentally handicapped persons. Invalid pensioners being considered by the Department of Social Services for training under the provisions of the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947, are examined by the Vocational Guidance Branch before training is provided. During the twelve months ended June, 1951, the Service provided vocational guidance for 14,627 individuals.

Under the scheme operated by the International Refugee Organization for the resettlement of Displaced Persons from Europe following the 1939-45 War, the Commonwealth Employment Service is responsible for placing the workers amongst these people in employment where their services will be of most use in increasing production. Up to 30th June, 1951, a total of 98,658 Displaced Persons had been so placed.

Towards the middle of 1950 the Service assumed a new responsibility, that of placing migrants from Great Britain under the Commonwealth-Nominated Migration Scheme. The numbers coming forward under this scheme will increase as the Displaced Person Scheme tapers off. Arrangements were also made by the Immigration Authorities with the Dutch and Italian Governments to ensure a steady flow of European workers into the country.

The Service functions within the Employment Division of the Department of Labour and National Service, and is under the control of a Director of Employment. It functions on a decentralized basis. The Central Office is in Melbourne, and there are State Head Offices in each of the capital cities, with 124 District Employment Offices and Branches in suburban and the larger provincial centres, and with some 250 agents in the smaller country centres who are responsible to the various District Employment Offices. The District Offices and Branches are distributed as follows:—New South Wales, 47; Victoria, 32; Queensland, 20; South Australia, 10 (including Darwin); Western Australia, 11; Tasmania, 4.

The Service completed its fifth year of operation in May, 1951, and statistics of the principal items of business transacted are contained in the following table:—

**Commonwealth Employment Service—Operations for the Year Ended June, 1951 :  
Australia.**

(Persons.)

Month.	Applicants for Employment.			Vacancies.		Persons receiving Advice or Information.	Displaced Persons Placed in Employment.
	New Registrations.	Referred to Employers.	Placed in Employment.	New Notifications during month.	Unfilled at end of month.		
1949-50—							
May ..	42,313	40,730	30,699	46,715	113,902	39,236	5,028
June ..	48,045	44,788	32,769	43,184	108,110	42,931	3,480
1950-51—							
July ..	38,816	35,962	26,266	36,061	106,352	37,907	2,466
August ..	36,151	33,791	25,166	37,576	108,735	35,642	1,909
September ..	44,047	42,526	32,299	52,398	117,639	40,618	3,586
October ..	35,892	32,840	24,357	42,564	124,539	35,721	2,068
November ..	37,359	34,002	25,113	40,867	125,525	36,619	2,048
December ..	34,575	31,747	25,784	34,531	120,821	36,329	3,240
January ..	43,173	37,113	27,619	48,567	128,949	40,916	2,968
February ..	44,709	40,942	32,053	43,303	125,760	41,200	3,446
March ..	43,148	40,534	30,670	46,680	128,286	39,624	1,532
April ..	37,579	35,366	26,583	37,623	126,812	35,684	790
May ..	35,766	32,969	24,406	34,632	125,030	38,457	457
June ..	40,286	36,954	27,103	39,643	124,854	41,859	1,116
Total, 1950-51	471,501	434,746	327,419	494,445	..	460,576	25,626
Monthly Average, 1950-51 ..	39,292	36,229	27,293	41,204	121,942	38,381	2,135

#### § 4. State Labour Exchanges.

With the setting up of the Commonwealth Employment Service referred to in the preceding section most of the State Labour Exchange Organizations existing previously have been superseded. Details concerning the organization and administration of these exchanges in the several States were given in Labour Report No. 30, page 133.

#### § 5. Commonwealth Unemployment and Sickness Benefits.

1. **General.**—A very important addition was made to Commonwealth social legislation when the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Act 1944, (from 1st July, 1947, incorporated in the Social Services Consolidation Act 1947-1951) received the Royal Assent on 5th April, 1944.

The Act came into operation on 1st July, 1945, and is financed from the National Welfare Fund. The first payments were made on 19th July, 1945.

Persons eligible include all males between the ages of 16 and 65 years and all females between the ages of 16 and 60 years who have lived in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding the claim or who satisfy the Director-General of Social Services that they intend to remain permanently in Australia and who are not receiving a Service pension under the Repatriation Act or an invalid, age, or widows' pension or payment under the Tuberculosis Act.

The payment of unemployment benefit is subject to the claimant being capable of undertaking and willing to accept suitable employment. Except where the applicant lives in remote or inaccessible areas of Australia or

where for some good reason it is impossible to do so, the payment of sickness benefit is subject to the production of a medical certificate or some other satisfactory evidence.

2. **Maximum Rates of Benefits and Income.**—The maximum weekly rates of benefits for both unemployment and sickness and permissible income are as follows:—

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Income.	Total Benefit Plus Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	Child.	Total.		
Unmarried—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
16 years and under 17 years	15 0	..	..	15 0	5 0	20 0
17 years and under 18 years	15 0	..	..	15 0	10 0	25 0
18 years and under 21 years	20 0	..	..	20 0	15 0	35 0
21 years and over ..	25 0	..	..	25 0	20 0	45 0
Married .. ..	25 0	20 0	5 0	50 0	20 0	70 0

Where an unmarried claimant has the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, the total benefit may be increased by 5s. per week.

Additional benefit (not exceeding 20s. per week) may be paid in respect of claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under sixteen years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependent on the claimant, but is not employed by him.

3. **Means Test.**—All benefits are subject to a means test which disregards the value of property owned by a claimant. In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 20s. per week received by claimant from a friendly society or other approved benefit society is disregarded. For the purpose of calculating unemployment benefit, the income of the claimant and spouse is taken into account, but in the case of sickness benefit the claimant's income only will be considered in determining the amount of benefit because of the possession of other income.

A war pension is not regarded as income in assessing unemployment and sickness benefit, except where benefit is claimed for the same disability for which a war pension is granted.

Where a person is entitled to some other payment such as workers' compensation in respect of the disability for which he claims sickness benefit, payment will be made only to the extent to which such other payment is less than the amount of benefit.

In the case of unemployment the Act provides for payment of benefit for the duration of the unemployment, and in the case of sickness for the duration of temporary incapacity. Where incapacity through sickness becomes permanent, an invalid pension may be granted, subject to the conditions governing the grant of invalid pensions.

4. **Waiting Period.**—There is a waiting period of seven days in respect of which unemployment or sickness benefit is not payable.

5. **Special Benefit.**—A special benefit may be granted at a rate not exceeding that which might otherwise have been payable in cases of hardship where a person is not qualified for either sickness or unemployment benefit by reason of his inability to comply with one or other of the statutory requirements.

6. **Rehabilitation.**—Unemployment and sickness beneficiaries are eligible for participation in the Commonwealth rehabilitation scheme under the same conditions as invalid pensioners. The grant or continuance of an unemployment or sickness benefit may be refused if the claimant or beneficiary, on being required, fails to undergo a medical examination or to receive treatment or undertake training to do any suitable work.

In the year 1950–51 the number of persons examined was 9,226 of whom 1,152 were accepted for treatment or training.

7. **Unemployment Benefits.**—(i) *Number on Benefit*—The following table shows the number of persons on benefit at the end of each month January, 1950, to June, 1951:—

Number of Persons on Unemployment Benefit at End of Each Month.(a)

Month	Persons.						Australia.		
	New South Wales. (b)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (c)	Western Australia	Tasmania.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
1950—January ..	407	101	1,143	38	92	23	1,635	169	1,804
February ..	381	112	1,359	37	96	28	1,832	181	2,013
March ..	315	105	1,507	30	70	24	1,910	201	2,111
April ..	305	144	1,320	29	81	23	1,694	208	1,902
May ..	287	125	733	27	91	26	1,085	204	1,289
June ..	335	151	568	32	108	32	998	228	1,226
July ..	513	164	437	6	101	26	987	260	1,247
August ..	250	54	200	5	75	24	466	142	608
September ..	220	51	120	8	54	26	351	128	479
October ..	243	67	127	7	45	17	391	115	506
November ..	214	137	145	6	58	11	443	128	571
December ..	450	129	268	8	63	10	774	154	928
1951—January ..	179	46	401	5	64	9	585	119	704
February ..	170	30	703	6	54	11	551	123	674
March ..	433	43	646	5	54	0	1,053	137	1,190
April ..	266	48	291	4	53	8	541	120	670
May ..	261	45	309	3	46	7	521	150	671
June ..	246	32	263	3	50	10	457	147	604

(a) Last Saturday of month.  
Northern Territory.

(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(c) Includes

(ii) *Payments made.*—The amounts paid in unemployment benefits for the months January, 1950, to June, 1951, are shown in the following table:—

Unemployment Benefit Payments During Each Month.

(£.)

Month.	New South Wales.(a)	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia. (b)	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
1950—January ..	7,303	239	5,105	214	412	125	13,398
February ..	528	492	6,661	79	305	103	8,168
March ..	Cr. 5,039	270	11,448	60	350	200	7,289
April ..	829	212	10,970	14	476	96	12,597
May ..	Cr. 997	698	8,449	Cr. 1	372	86	8,607
June ..	1,696	547	4,664	23	399	132	7,461
July ..	1,021	734	1,546	175	788	146	4,410
August ..	3,244	394	1,488	41	582	195	5,944
September ..	2,530	451	1,152	Cr. 20	470	130	4,713
October ..	1,493	171	950	39	391	177	2,921
November ..	2,085	2,981	635	44	461	107	6,313
December ..	1,176	903	862	40	429	48	3,458
1951—January ..	4,092	679	1,758	Cr. 145	432	63	6,879
February ..	2,430	Cr. 755	3,482	27	428	56	5,668
March ..	1,476	238	6,324	Cr. 24	306	97	8,417
April ..	2,260	703	4,387	Cr. 49	354	34	7,680
May ..	2,592	818	2,139	Cr. 51	376	53	5,927
June ..	925	414	Cr. 1,938	273	343	88	105

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Includes Northern Territory.

### § 6. Industrial Disputes.

1. **General.**—The collection of information relating to industrial disputes involving stoppage of work in Australia was initiated by this Bureau at the beginning of the year 1913. Particulars for the first complete year were published in Labour Report No. 5, Section XI. An examination of official reports, newspapers, and other publications showed that there was insufficient material for the compilation of complete information for years prior to 1913.

Annual figures for years since 1913 are contained in Labour Reports Nos. 6 to 38 while particulars for the year 1950 are shown in the following table.

2. **Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1950.**—The following table deals with industrial disputes involving stoppage of work during the year 1950 in industrial groups.

The number of industrial disputes recorded during 1950 was 1,276 as compared with 849 during the previous year. In New South Wales 1,030 disputes occurred in 1950, 866 of which involved workpeople engaged in the coal-mining industry. Working days lost during 1950 amounted to 2,062,888 for all disputes in Australia, as compared with 1,333,990 working days lost during 1949. The estimated loss of wages was £4,166,418 in 1950, as compared with £2,611,536 for the year 1949.

#### Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1950.

Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly. (a)	Total.		
	<b>New South Wales—</b>							£
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	40	4,551	60,410	3,504	63,914	94,477	178,044
III.	Food, drink, etc.	15	16	3,033	..	3,033	14,136	23,909
V.	Books, printing, etc.	3	3	418	709	1,127	14,207	29,110
VI.	Other Manufacturing	27	32	4,576	924	5,500	93,002	159,056
VII.	Building	12	14	1,111	72	1,183	5,805	12,721
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	866	1,185	162,470	9,197	171,667	207,223	580,471
	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	4	3,528	..	3,528	17,640	84,543
IX.	Railway and tramway services	12	12	9,609	8,092	17,701	17,916	35,757
X.	Other land transport	5	5	1,189	..	1,189	2,465	5,509
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc.	35	528	39,076	..	39,076	107,079	214,184
XIV.	Miscellaneous	14	1,015	3,849	..	3,849	5,355	10,634
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,030</b>	<b>7,365</b>	<b>289,269</b>	<b>22,498</b>	<b>311,767</b>	<b>639,305</b>	<b>1,333,938</b>
	<b>Victoria—</b>							
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	2	2	190	..	190	210	370
III.	Food, drink, etc.	3	6	315	..	315	715	1,442
IV.	Clothing, textiles, etc.	1	1	94	..	94	470	800
VI.	Other manufacturing	1	8	55	..	55	55	100
VII.	Building	2	1,001	9,082	55	9,137	9,685	19,823
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	2	2	1,120	..	1,120	3,920	8,900
IX.	Railway and tramway services	6	6	39,357	14,722	54,079	1,157,785	2,294,758
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc.	12	112	8,205	49	8,254	29,402	58,478
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc.	1	1	20	..	20	120	93
XIV.	Miscellaneous	3	3	723	..	723	6,003	10,927
	<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>59,161</b>	<b>14,826</b>	<b>73,987</b>	<b>1,208,365</b>	<b>2,395,691</b>
	<b>Queensland—</b>							
III.	Food, drink, etc.	4	4	2,554	389	2,943	6,271	9,598
V.	Books, printing, etc.	1	1	155	..	155	620	1,000
VII.	Building	1	1	16	..	16	240	446
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining	85	132	5,613	334	5,947	12,400	26,723
IX.	Railway and tramway services	2	2	4,437	1,669	6,106	27,034	50,724
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc.	53	144	11,340	91	11,431	27,358	54,104
XIV.	Miscellaneous	1	1	42	..	42	84	126
	<b>Total</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>24,157</b>	<b>2,483</b>	<b>26,640</b>	<b>74,007</b>	<b>142,721</b>

## Industrial Disputes in Industrial Groups, 1950—continued.

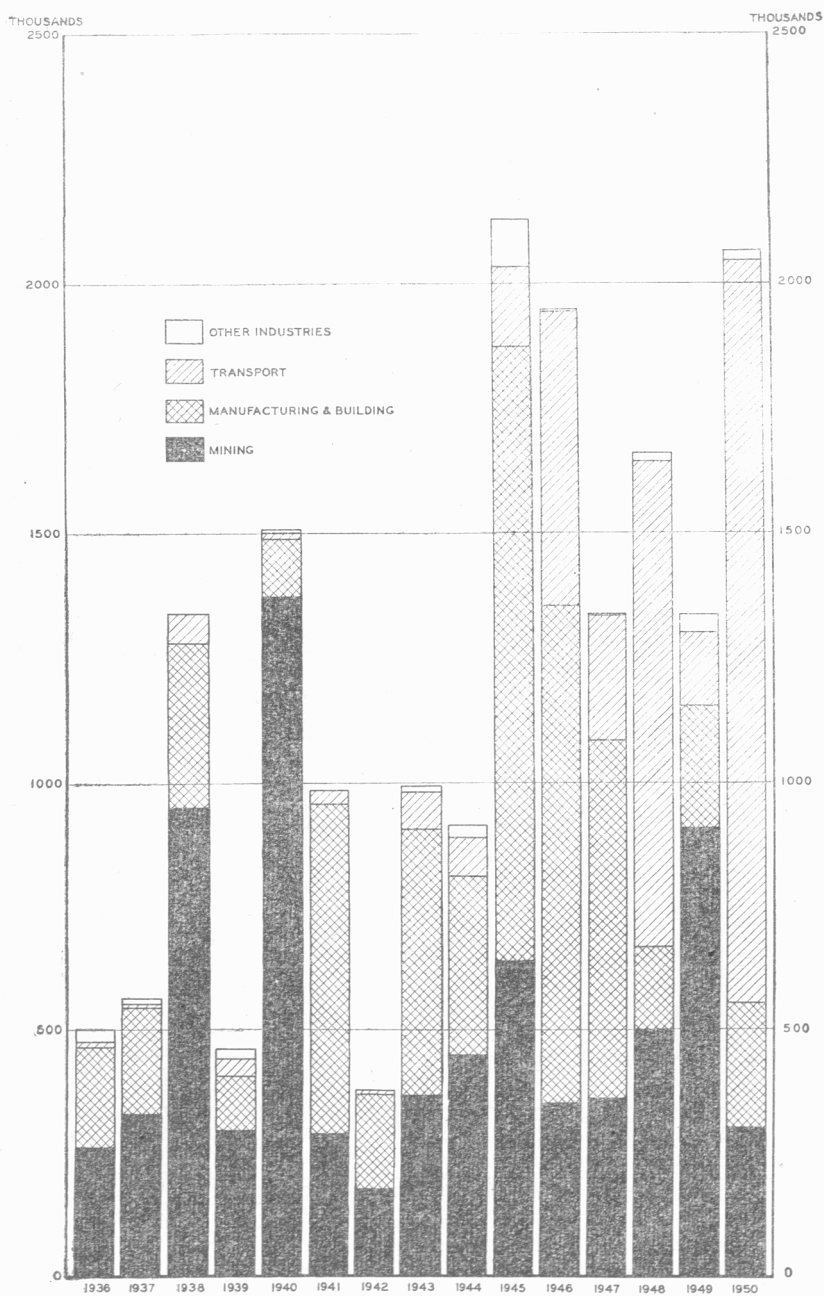
Class.	Industrial Group.	Num-ber.	Estab-lish-ments In-volved	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Esti-mated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly. (a)	Total.		
<b>South Australia—</b>								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	3	202	2,622	..	2,622	2,701	£ 5,460
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	9	9	656	..	656	3,934	7,638
VII.	Building ..	1	1	120	..	120	240	480
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	2	6	5,362	390	5,752	109,220	236,640
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	13	32	2,606	12	2,618	3,243	6,486
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	1	1	2,400	..	2,400	7,200	8,000
	Total ..	29	251	13,766	402	14,168	126,538	264,704
<b>Western Australia—</b>								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	17	..	17	34	68
III.	Food, drink, etc. ..	3	3	300	..	300	440	841
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	14	..	14	14	28
VIII.	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	67	..	67	134	268
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	1	1	60	..	60	23	46
X.	Other Land transport ..	2	2	88	..	88	82	170
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	5	21	1,371	..	1,371	4,756	9,470
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	1	1	35	..	35	245	600
	Total ..	15	31	1,952	..	1,952	5,728	11,491
<b>Tasmania—</b>								
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	1	1	7	11	18	270	476
III.	Food, drink, etc. ..	2	2	31	..	31	98	245
VI.	Other manufacturing ..	1	1	10	..	10	30	60
VII.	Building ..	4	4	304	..	304	2,217	4,283
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	1	1	731	..	731	731	1,030
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	10	36	2,006	..	2,006	5,101	10,202
	Total ..	19	45	3,089	11	3,100	8,447	16,296
<b>Northern Territory—</b>								
VIII.	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	1	1	43	..	43	430	1,450
<b>Australian Capital Territory—</b>								
VII.	Building ..	1	1	8	..	8	32	64
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	1	1	36	..	36	36	63
	Total ..	2	2	44	..	44	68	127
<b>Australia—</b>								
I.	Wood, furniture, etc. ..	1	1	17	..	17	34	68
II.	Engineering, metal works, etc.	46	4,756	63,229	3,515	66,744	97,658	184,350
III.	Food, drink, etc. ..	27	31	6,233	389	6,622	21,660	36,035
IV.	Clothing textiles, etc. ..	1	1	94	..	94	470	800
V.	Books, printing, etc. ..	4	4	573	700	1,282	14,827	30,110
VI.	Other Manufacturing ..	39	51	5,311	924	6,235	97,035	166,882
VII.	Building ..	21	1,022	10,641	127	10,768	18,216	37,817
VIII.	(i) Coal-mining ..	953	1,319	169,203	9,531	178,734	283,543	616,094
	(ii) Other mining, quarries, etc.	3	6	3,638	..	3,638	18,204	86,261
IX.	Railway and tramway services ..	24	28	59,556	24,873	84,429	1,312,709	2,618,955
X.	Other land transport ..	7	7	1,277	..	1,277	2,547	5,079
XI.	Shipping, wharf labour, etc. ..	128	873	64,604	152	64,756	176,939	352,924
XIII.	Domestic, hotels, etc. ..	2	2	56	..	56	156	156
XIV.	Miscellaneous ..	20	1,021	7,049	..	7,049	18,887	30,287
	Total ..	1,276	9,122	391,481	40,220	431,701	2,062,888	4,166,411

(a) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.

NOTE.—The following dispute commenced in, and was uncompleted at the end of 1949 and the figures shown in the table below are included in the statistics of both 1949 and 1950.

State.	Number of Disputes.	Estab-lish-ments Involved.	Number of Employees Involved.		
			Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
New South Wales ..	1	1	183	..	183



**Industrial Disputes : Australia, 1936 to 1950.****Working days lost—Industrial Groups.**

3. **Industrial Disputes, 1939, 1946 to 1950.**—(i) *Australia.*—The following table shows in industrial groups the number of industrial disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the losses in working days and wages for each of the years 1946 to 1950, with the aggregate for the same period. Figures for the year 1939 have also been inserted.

**Industrial Disputes : Australia.**

Year.	Manu- facturing. (Groups I. to VI.)	Building. (Group VII.)	Mining. (Group VIII.)		Transport, Land and Sea. (Groups IX. to XI.)	Miscel- laneous. (Groups XII. to XIV.)	ALL GROUPS.
			(i) Coal- mining.	(ii) Other Mining.			
NUMBER.							
1939 ..	20	3	362	4	6	21	416
1946 ..	92	6	684	3	71	13	869
1947 ..	69	16	818	1	69	9	982
1948 ..	60	13	974	2	68	24	1,141
1949 ..	68	3	644	3	122	9	849
1950 ..	118	21	953	3	159	22	1,276
1946-50 ..	407	59	4,073	12	489	77	5,117

**WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.**

1939 ..	8,818	57	137,792	900	2,017	3,246	152,830
1946 ..	55,225	554	163,954	669	126,378	1,768	348,548
1947 ..	35,475	39,114	192,390	500	58,483	1,175	327,137
1948 ..	17,347	2,612	198,849	1,360	92,395	4,586	317,149
1949 ..	25,358	284	146,948	928	78,165	12,894	264,577
1950 ..	80,994	10,768	178,734	3,638	150,462	7,105	431,701
1946-50 ..	214,399	53,332	880,875	7,095	505,883	27,528	1,689,112

**WORKING DAYS LOST.**

1939 ..	108,709	563	291,067	3,805	35,016	19,994	459,154
1946 ..	993,830	5,552	350,366	3,570	590,159	4,367	1,947,844
1947 ..	559,524	159,443	357,747	5,000	251,251	5,763	1,338,728
1948 ..	156,109	10,099	474,571	32,000	975,168	14,739	1,662,686
1949 ..	243,197	573	868,333	39,152	147,278	35,457	1,333,990
1950 ..	231,684	18,219	283,543	18,204	1,492,195	19,043	2,062,888
1946-50 ..	2,184,344	193,886	2,334,560	97,926	3,456,051	79,369	8,346,136

**ESTIMATED LOSS IN WAGES.**

(£.)

1939 ..	83,540	424	335,033	4,728	22,114	9,877	455,716
1946 ..	1,082,683	7,120	533,202	4,525	658,085	4,532	2,290,147
1947 ..	713,407	238,939	566,115	7,000	364,395	8,229	1,898,085
1948 ..	242,948	16,719	882,527	60,932	1,073,867	22,121	2,299,114
1949 ..	445,303	1,171	1,741,238	80,300	280,056	63,468	2,611,536
1950 ..	418,245	37,817	616,094	86,261	2,977,558	30,443	4,166,418
1946-50 ..	2,902,586	301,766	4,339,176	239,018	5,353,961	128,793	13,265,300

Satisfactory comparisons of the frequency of industrial disputes in classified industries can be made only after omitting those which are recorded for coal-mining (Group VIII. (i)). For the year 1950 these disputes represented 75 per cent. of the annual total.

During the five years 1946-50, working days lost through dislocations of work involving employees in coal-mining numbered 2,334,560, representing 28 per cent. of the total loss of working days for the period. The majority of these disputes occurred in New South Wales. In making comparisons regarding the number and magnitude of disputes in this particular class it should be noted that the number of workers engaged in the coal-mining industry is very much larger in New South Wales than in any other State.

(ii) *States*.—The number of industrial disputes in each State during the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950, together with the workpeople involved, the working days lost, and the estimated loss in wages are given in the following table :—

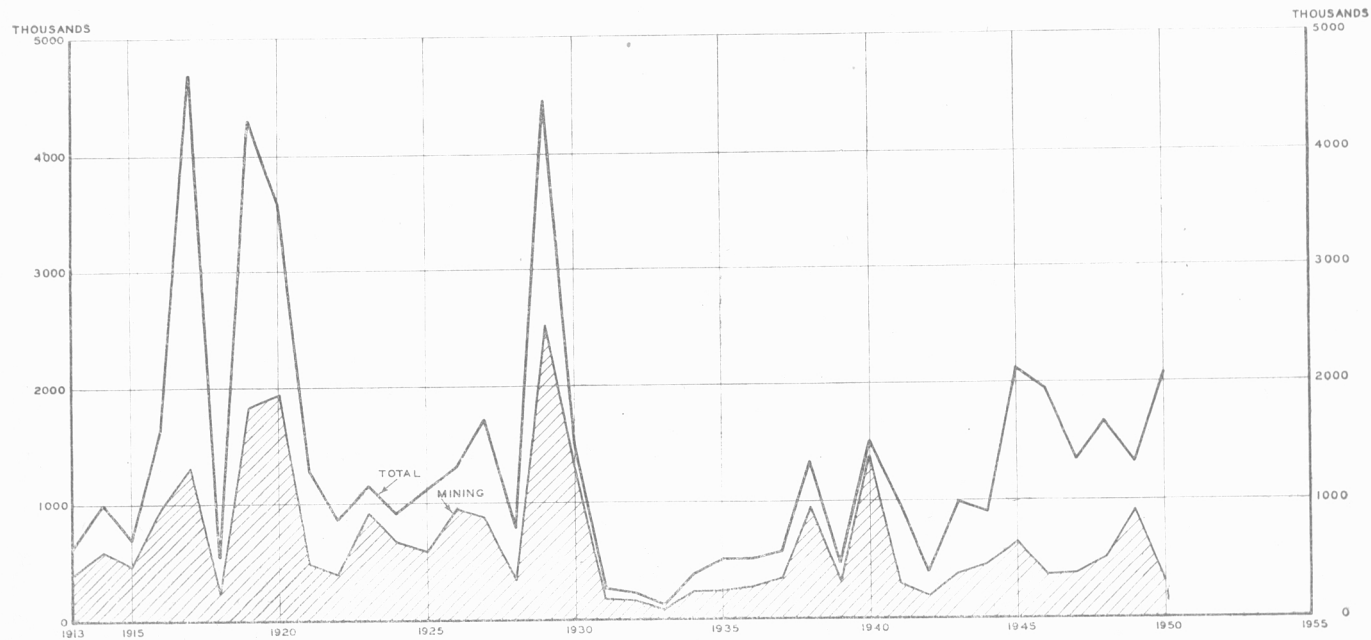
Industrial Disputes: States.

State or Territory.	Year.	Number.	Establishments Involved.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
				Directly.	In-directly. (a)	Total.		
								£
New South Wales ..	1939	386	460	139,301	9,230	148,531	410,183	419,330
	1947	921	2,731	234,587	43,211	297,798	919,411	1,360,632
	1948	1,071	1,832	235,473	7,936	242,509	644,961	1,155,940
	1949	739	3,428	197,367	3,526	200,893	1,005,285	1,981,769
	1950	1,039	7,305	289,269	22,498	311,767	639,395	1,333,938
Victoria ..	1939	10	10	1,989	180	2,169	27,313	19,946
	1947	17	233	6,005	1,929	7,934	334,185	417,426
	1948	21	82	41,734	155	41,889	159,993	240,634
	1949	20	193	22,018	..	22,018	60,112	115,883
	1950	33	1,142	59,161	14,826	73,987	1,208,365	2,395,691
Queensland ..	1939	5	6	373	2	375	1,870	1,753
	1947	13	24	11,944	20	11,964	31,245	45,953
	1948	12	27	13,734	7,797	21,531	815,107	833,269
	1949	38	234	26,184	87	26,271	183,333	351,985
	1950	147	285	24,157	2,483	26,640	74,007	142,721
South Australia ..	1939	2	2	170	5	175	1,880	1,416
	1947	17	35	4,821	832	5,653	39,654	53,916
	1948	21	28	5,891	1,136	7,027	30,264	47,138
	1949	18	45	5,845	147	5,992	28,318	51,541
	1950	29	251	13,766	402	14,168	126,538	264,704
Western Australia ..	1939	7	7	1,108	145	1,253	14,100	9,578
	1947	7	12	1,759	7	1,766	6,070	8,622
	1948	9	26	2,356	..	2,356	7,836	15,296
	1949	16	33	5,564	97	5,661	26,287	52,421
	1950	15	31	1,952	..	1,952	5,728	11,491
Tasmania ..	1939	4	4	53	..	53	166	93
	1947	6	17	1,152	220	1,372	5,593	7,636
	1948	4	5	468	..	468	950	1,473
	1949	15	48	3,503	..	3,503	29,316	55,319
	1950	19	45	3,089	11	3,100	8,447	16,296
Northern Territory ..	1939	2	16	234	40	274	3,642	3,600
	1947	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1948	3	82	1,369	..	1,369	3,665	5,364
	1949	2	2	200	..	200	1,261	2,522
	1950	1	1	43	..	43	430	1,450
Aust. Cap. Territory ..	1939	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1947	1	6	450	200	650	2,600	3,900
	1948	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	1949	1	1	39	..	39	78	96
	1950	2	2	44	..	44	68	127
Australia ..	1939	416	505	143,228	9,602	152,830	450,154	455,716
	1947	982	3,058	280,718	46,419	327,137	1,338,728	1,898,085
	1948	1,141	2,082	301,025	16,124	317,149	1,662,686	2,299,114
	1949	849	3,984	260,720	3,857	264,577	1,333,990	2,611,536
	1950	1,276	9,122	301,481	40,220	431,701	2,062,888	4,166,418

(a) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.

4. *Duration of Industrial Disputes*.—(i) *General*.—The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e., the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of

# Industrial Disputes : Australia, 1913 to 1950. Working Days Lost.



Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g., Metal Smelting and Cement Manufacture). The following limitations of time have been adopted:—(a) One day and less; (b) two days and more than one day; (c) three days and more than two days; (d) over three days and under one week; (e) one week and under two weeks; (f) two weeks and under four weeks; (g) four weeks and under eight weeks; and (h) eight weeks and over.

(ii) *Australia*—1939, 1947 to 1950.—Particulars of industrial disputes, according to limits of duration, for Australia for the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950 are given in the following table:—

Duration of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Limits of Duration.	Year.	Num- ber.	Workpeople Involved.			Working Days Lost.	Estimated Loss in Wages.
			Directly.	In- directly. (a)	Total.		
1 day and less ..	1939	230	96,184	1,191	97,375	97,375	£ 106,970
	1947	603	164,804	3,826	168,630	168,084	264,389
	1948	756	182,411	5,643	188,054	188,054	333,833
	1949	601	176,513	1,960	178,473	169,816	333,855
	1950	809	248,359	18,642	267,001	254,054	508,392
2 days and more than 1 day ..	1939	60	16,398	872	17,270	34,540	35,648
	1947	137	28,745	2,349	31,094	61,398	93,768
	1948	144	28,979	610	29,589	58,636	103,437
	1949	104	24,411	450	24,861	49,150	96,307
	1950	189	46,627	949	47,576	71,880	146,074
3 days and more than 2 days ..	1939	38	10,103	1,374	11,477	34,431	36,427
	1947	79	19,953	1,109	21,122	63,156	94,327
	1948	50	24,212	651	24,863	66,129	107,455
	1949	37	8,464	19	8,483	22,940	44,705
	1950	82	15,202	8,324	23,526	65,492	129,989
Over 3 days and less than 1 week ..	1939	34	7,540	404	7,944	36,387	37,056
	1947	94	46,231	31,808	78,039	334,310	494,572
	1948	81	29,992	649	30,641	140,756	256,288
	1949	26	12,877	230	13,107	49,303	99,153
	1950	58	21,726	383	22,109	72,471	147,726
1 week and less than 2 weeks ..	1939	34	6,864	2,169	9,033	75,323	67,736
	1947	47	16,191	4,211	20,402	213,706	297,302
	1948	63	12,979	223	13,202	121,675	192,734
	1949	43	9,770	179	9,949	58,163	99,422
	1950	73	12,175	2,133	14,308	82,215	222,061
2 weeks and less than 4 weeks	1939	10	5,002	3,224	8,226	116,182	116,882
	1947	11	2,861	211	3,072	147,208	195,602
	1948	27	7,110	226	7,336	135,007	214,203
	1949	16	5,046	519	5,565	75,949	140,017
	1950	45	19,756	1,449	21,205	177,291	342,669
4 weeks and less than 8 weeks	1939	6	618	307	925	25,463	15,908
	1947	6	156	1,008	1,164	101,468	143,724
	1948	17	14,074	8,122	22,796	915,733	1,021,576
	1949	16	17,911	347	18,258	598,110	1,175,977
	1950	13	5,475	981	6,456	119,375	256,036
8 weeks and over ..	1939	4	519	61	580	39,453	39,089
	1947	5	1,777	1,837	3,614	249,398	314,461
	1948	3	668	..	668	36,666	69,588
	1949	6	5,728	153	5,881	310,559	622,040
	1950	7	22,161	7,359	29,520	1,220,104	2,413,471
Total ..	1939	416	143,228	9,602	152,830	459,154	455,716
	1947	982	280,718	46,419	327,137	1,338,728	1,898,085
	1948	1,141	301,025	16,124	317,149	1,662,686	2,299,174
	1949	849	260,720	3,857	264,577	1,333,900	2,611,536
	1950	1,276	391,481	40,220	431,701	2,062,888	4,166,418

(a) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes.

5. **Causes of Industrial Disputes.**—(i) *General.*—The reasons alleged by employers and employees for a stoppage of work do not in every instance agree in detail. In such instances additional information is sought to verify or support the contention of either side. On occasions, the alleged reason is of a twofold character, and, where this is the case, the claim which is fully or partially satisfied and results in a resumption of work is taken to be the principal cause of the dispute. For the purpose of classification these causes (or objects) of industrial disputes are grouped under seven main headings, namely:—(1) Wages; (2) hours of labour; (3) trade unionism; (4) employment of particular classes or persons; (5) working conditions; (6) sympathy; and (7) other causes. The first three groups are subdivided to meet the varying phases of the causes of disputes under each of the main headings.

(ii) *Causes of Disputes, Australia.*—The following table gives particulars of industrial disputes according to causes for the years 1913, 1939 and 1945 to 1950.

Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia.

Cause of Dispute.	1913.	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
NUMBER.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	42	13	19	30	26	30	36	59
(b) Against decrease ..	4	4	2	..	4	1	1	0
(c) Other wage questions	31	58	131	112	178	153	132	189
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	3	12	2	2	2	1	..	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	7	9	13	14	15	11	18	23
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	8	1	7	1	0	1	4	8
(b) Other union questions	5	48	69	64	46	37	55	43
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	44	107	243	205	104	153	114	324
5. Working conditions ..	51	90	268	273	254	388	214	306
6. Sympathy ..	5	1	32	12	16	38	25	30
7. Other causes ..	8	73	159	156	328	328	250	288
Total ..	208	416	945	869	982	1,141	849	1,276

WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.

1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	8,633	4,384	4,929	91,423	11,666	29,898	33,577	19,000
(b) Against decrease ..	503	279	52	..	970	19	620	470
(c) Other wage questions	7,160	17,094	37,861	27,903	53,273	44,905	28,128	65,122
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	460	4,150	3,023	249	463	160	..	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	1,819	3,383	7,550	8,888	19,811	6,448	5,487	7,778
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	5,370	21	1,700	116	4,884	7	1,999	443
(b) Other union questions	1,418	16,030	21,954	11,970	12,134	8,069	8,255	5,083
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	11,370	28,591	80,238	58,133	25,954	45,903	18,936	67,772
5. Working conditions ..	10,785	28,092	63,505	95,900	64,734	65,042	30,026	46,640
6. Sympathy ..	947	2,600	22,392	10,849	30,037	18,175	3,980	28,608
7. Other causes ..	1,758	48,106	72,734	43,117	103,211	98,523	133,560	190,680
Total ..	50,283	152,830	315,938	348,548	327,137	317,149	264,577	431,701

## Causes of Industrial Disputes: Australia—continued.

Cause of Dispute.	1913.	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
1. Wages—								
(a) For increase ..	100,069	24,115	149,901	555,529	345,453	776,298	887,259	402,426
(b) Against decrease ..	9,438	4,472	142	..	3,548	361	2,516	3,126
(c) Other wage questions	78,183	67,550	191,194	72,473	166,918	185,499	114,596	1,048,439
2. Hours of Labour—								
(a) For reduction ..	2,774	21,636	153,023	15,246	1,601	320	..	..
(b) Other disputes re hours ..	15,111	10,752	11,852	63,936	116,122	52,563	15,386	14,161
3. Trade Unionism—								
(a) Against employment of non-unionists ..	91,002	63	7,877	232	47,264	133	11,676	978
(b) Other union questions	32,388	52,086	168,105	47,419	48,092	34,090	12,588	11,258
4. Employment of particular classes or persons ..	191,723	81,101	892,051	699,542	182,650	227,800	60,682	230,714
5. Working conditions ..	73,562	108,409	206,798	325,686	123,976	132,811	58,073	110,644
6. Sympathy ..	24,066	2,600	149,771	95,248	34,113	110,154	12,890	33,701
7. Other causes ..	5,212	86,370	188,927	72,533	268,991	142,657	158,324	207,441
Total ..	623,528	459,154	2,119,641	1,947,844	1,338,728	1,662,686	1,333,990	2,062,888

The main causes of industrial disputes are “wage” questions, “working conditions”, “employment of particular classes or persons”, and “other causes.”

The number of disputes concerning “wages” was 254 in 1950 representing 20 per cent. of the total. The heading “employment of particular classes or persons” includes stoppages of work for the purpose of protesting against the dismissal of fellow workpeople who are considered to have been unfairly treated or victimized. This class of dispute occurs frequently in the coal-mining industry. Disputes over “employment” questions in 1950 numbered 324, or 25 per cent. of the total, and over “working conditions” 306, or 24 per cent. Disputes classified under these three headings number 884, or 69 per cent. of the total dislocations during the year. Those classified as “Other Causes” have increased during the past few years, and in 1950 amounted to 288 or 23 per cent.

6. Results of Industrial Disputes—(i) General.—The terms or conditions under which a resumption of work is agreed upon are taken as the basis of the result of the dispute and are comprised in one or other of the following four classes:—

(a) In favour of workpeople; (b) In favour of employer; (c) Compromise; (d) Indefinite.

Disputes are considered to result:—(a) In favour of workpeople, when the employees succeed in enforcing compliance with all their demands, or are substantially successful in attaining their principal object, or in resisting a demand made by their employers; (b) In favour of employer, when the demands of the employees are not conceded, or when the employer or employers are substantially successful in enforcing a demand; (c) Compromise, when the employees are successful in enforcing compliance with a part of their demands or in resisting substantially full compliance with the demands of their employer or employers; (d) Indefinite, when, for example, employees cease work owing to some misconception regarding the terms of an award, determination, or agreement, and work is resumed as usual on the matters in dispute being explained; or in cases where a dispute arises in connexion with certain work which is, however, abandoned, even though the employees return to the same establishment to be employed on other work. The results of “Sympathy” disputes, in which a body of workers cease work with the object of assisting another body of workers in obtaining compliance with some demand, are generally “Indefinite” except when the stoppage is entered

upon partly to enforce a demand from which these workers might ultimately benefit.

(ii) *Results in each State, 1950.*—The following table shows the industrial disputes in 1950, classified according to results.

**Industrial Disputes : Results, 1950.(a)**

State or Territory.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
New South Wales	117	639	34	240	20,208	162,686	5,397	123,476	43,929	317,653	98,044	179,679
Victoria ..	8	10	3	12	8,438	30,411	537	34,601	30,529	1,140,120	1,030	36,686
Queensland ..	27	87	3	27	4,148	8,907	1,862	11,276	8,732	25,261	23,270	12,467
South Australia	2	11	4	9	377	8,626	183	4,982	2,882	117,706	936	5,014
Western Australia	2	2	2	4	459	115	127	1,251	901	720	157	3,860
Tasmania ..	8	10	..	..	421	2,659	..	..	2,499	5,928	..	..
N. Territory ..	..	1	..	..	..	43	..	..	..	430	..	..
A.C. Territory ..	1	..	..	1	36	..	..	8	36	..	..	32
<b>Total, Aust. ..</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>34,087</b>	<b>213,537</b>	<b>8,106</b>	<b>175,594</b>	<b>89,598</b>	<b>1,607,818</b>	<b>123,437</b>	<b>237,738</b>

(a) The following particulars of disputes incomplete at 31st December, 1950, should be added to the above figures to effect a balance with those published in preceding tables :—

State.	Number.	Workpeople Involved.	Working Days Lost.
Queensland .. .. .	3	357	4,277
Tasmania .. .. .	1	20	20
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>4,297</b>

(iii) *Australia, 1950.*—The following table shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the total number of working days lost in disputes in Australia for the year 1950, classified according to cause and result of dispute.

**Industrial Disputes : Causes and Results, Australia, 1950.(a)**

Cause.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
<b>Wages—</b>												
(a) For increase	14	33	6	6	2,311	13,765	2,381	543	19,500	287,035	86,571	9,320
(b) Against decrease ..	2	2	1	1	250	66	66	94	1,412	848	396	470
(c) Other wage questions ..	23	130	11	25	10,027	51,647	483	2,965	14,660	1,020,991	986	11,802
<b>Hours of Labour—</b>												
(a) For reduction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Other disputes re hours	1	18	2	2	266	6,643	698	171	532	10,930	2,180	519
<b>Trade Unionism—</b>												
(a) Against employment of non-unionists	4	2	..	2	243	61	..	139	566	273	..	139
(b) Other union questions ..	3	16	..	24	175	1,518	..	3,390	1,357	2,460	..	7,441
<b>Employment of particular Classes or Persons ..</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12,670</b>	<b>42,623</b>	<b>1,717</b>	<b>10,385</b>	<b>39,544</b>	<b>150,308</b>	<b>8,735</b>	<b>27,830</b>
<b>Working conditions</b> ..	<b>58</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>7,027</b>	<b>34,041</b>	<b>2,622</b>	<b>2,959</b>	<b>10,439</b>	<b>66,442</b>	<b>24,218</b>	<b>9,545</b>
<b>Sympathy</b> ..	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>33,701</b>
<b>Other Causes</b> ..	<b>8</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>63,173</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>126,250</b>	<b>1,588</b>	<b>68,531</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>136,971</b>
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>34,087</b>	<b>213,537</b>	<b>8,106</b>	<b>175,594</b>	<b>89,598</b>	<b>1,607,818</b>	<b>123,437</b>	<b>237,738</b>

(a) See note to table above.



(iv) *Australia, 1939 and 1946 to 1950.*—The table hereunder shows the number of disputes, number of workpeople involved, and the number of working days lost in disputes in Australia during the years 1939 and 1946 to 1950, classified according to results :—

### Industrial Disputes : Results, Australia.

Year.	Number.				Workpeople Involved.				Working Days Lost.			
	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.	In favour of Workpeople.	In favour of Employer.	Compromise.	Indefinite.
1939 ..	75	302	19	20	22,517	117,445	6,233	6,635	104,192	256,602	43,569	54,791
1946 ..	167	621	7	69	43,912	191,000	34,987	74,342	218,411	416,350	236,183	865,915
1947 ..	146	687	71	78	68,595	174,724	36,008	47,810	275,608	475,285	482,769	105,066
1948 ..	111	922	22	83	25,374	219,349	20,318	51,489	210,456	371,527	788,843	263,975
1949 ..	116	642	26	64	23,022	187,352	11,977	42,043	103,387	263,462	195,982	770,793
1950(a) ..	173	760	46	293	34,087	213,537	8,106	175,594	89,598	1,607,818	123,437	237,738

(a) See note to table on page 137.

Disputes resulting in favour of workpeople exceeded those resulting in favour of employers in earlier years, but since 1916 the position has been reversed. The percentage in favour of employers in 1950 was 60. Many of the disputes in the coal-mining industry are of short duration, and the records show that the workpeople resumed work on antecedent conditions without apparently gaining any concessions. These disputes have been classified as terminating in favour of the employer. A number of disputes in each year resulted in a compromise, while in certain cases the heading "Indefinite" had to be adopted.

**7. Methods of Settlement.**—(i) *General.*—Methods of settlement have been classified under the following six headings :—

- (i) By negotiation.
- (ii) Under State Industrial Act.
- (iii) Under Commonwealth Arbitration Act.
- (iv) By filling places of workpeople on strike or locked out.
- (v) By closing down establishments permanently.
- (vi) By other methods.

Each of the first five methods indicates some definite action. The sixth, "Other Methods," is more or less indefinite, and is connected with "Other Causes" and relates mainly to resumptions of work at collieries at the next shift, the cause of the stoppages not being in all cases made known officially to the management.

(ii) *Australia, 1913, 1939 and 1945 to 1950.*—Information for Australia for the years specified is given hereunder:—

**Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes: Australia.**

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.(a)
<b>NUMBER OF DISPUTES.</b>								
Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	119	277	482	383	263	277	250	346
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	17	17	75	89	90	83	46	1
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	19	5	10	5	7	22	14	23
By reference to Board or Court ..	22	2	22	19	96	106	36	18
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance compulsory conference or reference to a Board or Court ..	4	6	43	19	36	11	54	120
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	13	1	1	3	1	1	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
By other methods ..	13	106	308	344	487	638	448	764
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>982</b>	<b>1,138</b>	<b>848</b>	<b>1,272</b>

**WORKPEOPLE INVOLVED.**

Negotiation—								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	23,357	80,193	129,135	86,174	48,788	68,199	38,993	74,364
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	3,172	2,489	23,426	57,768	19,243	23,455	5,885	449
Under State Industrial Act—								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	6,505	4,925	7,967	724	4,774	18,568	7,272	2,861
By reference to Board or Court ..	12,774	429	11,981	6,483	66,998	29,100	19,731	3,453
Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—								
By intervention, assistance compulsory conference or reference to a Board or Court ..	659	3,268	20,596	10,059	23,497	19,573	38,187	58,147
By Filling Places of Work-people on Strike or Locked out ..	658	20	10	130	25	18	..	..
By Closing down Establishment permanently ..	170	178	..	..	..	..	..	..
By other methods ..	2,988	61,326	121,956	182,903	163,812	157,617	154,326	292,050
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>50,283</b>	<b>132,830</b>	<b>315,071</b>	<b>344,241</b>	<b>327,137</b>	<b>316,530</b>	<b>264,394</b>	<b>431,324</b>

(a) See note to table on page 137.

## Methods of Settlement of Industrial Disputes—Australia—continued.

Methods of Settlement.	1913.	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.(a)
WORKING DAYS LOST.								
<b>Negotiation—</b>								
Direct between employers and employees or their representatives ..	94,400	245,709	745,989	265,401	126,574	163,397	210,054	425,639
By intervention or assistance of distinctive third party—not under Commonwealth or State Industrial Act ..	26,335	52,943	158,452	339,481	78,332	118,582	36,465	5,388
<b>Under State Industrial Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance or compulsory conference ..	187,871	35,647	21,268	12,539	22,356	164,069	46,090	13,428
By reference to Board or Court ..	221,769	3,366	394,787	116,681	374,013	186,031	99,910	26,841
<b>Under Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act—</b>								
By intervention, assistance compulsory conference, or reference to a Board or Court ..	2,105	46,450	367,799	147,509	441,317	790,303	764,983	1,199,993
<b>By Filling Places of Work-people on Strikes or Locked out ..</b>	14,139	20	110	7,552	50	36		
<b>By Closing down Establishment permanently ..</b>	20,400	3,892						
<b>By other methods ..</b>	56,509	71,127	381,180	847,696	298,086	212,333	176,122	387,302
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>623,528</b>	<b>450,154</b>	<b>2,069,585</b>	<b>1,736,859</b>	<b>1,338,728</b>	<b>1,634,801</b>	<b>1,333,624</b>	<b>2,058,591</b>

(a) See note to table on page 137.

In each of the years prior to 1947 included above, direct negotiation between employers and employees settled the majority of the disputes. In the year 1913, 57 per cent. of the total number of dislocations were settled in this manner, and the percentages in subsequent years varied between 39 in 1942 and 78 in 1937. In 1947 the percentage settled by direct negotiation fell to 27, while the percentage of disputes settled by "Other methods" rose to 50. The corresponding percentages for 1948 are 24 and 56, for 1949 29 and 53 and for 1950 27 and 60. In connexion with the comparatively large number of disputes classified as settled "By other methods", stoppages of work frequently occur, principally at the collieries, without any cause being brought officially under the notice of the employers or their representatives. Such stoppages usually last for one day, and work is resumed on the following morning without negotiation.

## § 7. Industrial Accidents.

1. **General.**—In previous issues of the Labour Report tables were published showing details of all industrial accidents. These were compiled from returns received from the Chief Inspectors of Factories, the Chief Inspectors of Machinery, the Boiler, Lift and Scaffolding Inspectors, and the Departments of Mines in the several States. Recent inquiries, however, have revealed that, except in the case of mining accidents, the usefulness of these statistics is seriously impaired by lack of definition and coverage from State to State and it has been decided to publish only the statistics of mining accidents until these defects can be remedied.

2. **Mining Accidents.**—(i) *Sources of Information.*—Information regarding mining accidents is obtained from the Departments of Mines in the respective States, except as regards accidents occurring in smelting and metallurgical works which are registered as factories and are under the jurisdiction of the Chief Inspectors of Factories.

(ii) *Classification.*—The following table gives particulars of mining accidents reported to the Mines Departments in each State in 1950.

## Mining Accidents: Classification according to Causes—1950.(a)

Cause of Accident.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia.
<b>A.—Fatal Accidents.</b>							
<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	2
" " " Falls of Ground ..	1	..	1	..	3	1	6
" " " Falling down shafts, etc. ..	..	..	1	..	6	..	7
Other Accidents ..	..	2	1	..	6	..	9
2. Above Ground—(b)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents ..	2	..	1	..	1	1	5
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
Other Accidents ..	7	..	..	..	1	..	8
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Accidents ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Total ..	20	2	4	..	18	2	46

**B.—Non-fatal Accidents Incapacitating for over 14 days.**

<b>METALLIFEROUS MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Explosives ..	1	..	1	..	6	..	8
" " " Falls of Ground ..	70	..	15	..	49	9	143
" " " Falling down shafts, etc. ..	12	..	2	..	19	..	33
Other Accidents ..	185	7	60	3	414	16	685
2. Above Ground—(b)							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	15	..	5	6	25	1	52
Other Accidents ..	95	..	43	4	104	22	268
3. Accidents in Batteries, Ore-dressing, Smelting and other Metallurgical Works, etc. ..	..	..	70	33	10	5	118
<b>COAL MINES.</b>							
1. Below Ground—							
Accidents caused by Mine Explosions (Fire Damp, etc.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents caused by Explosives (Dynamite, etc.) ..	19	..	5	..	..	..	24
Accidents caused by Falls of Earth ..	16	..	38	..	11	4	69
Other Accidents ..	46	3	97	3	111	5	265
2. Above Ground—							
Accidents caused by machinery in motion ..	3	..	1	..	4	..	8
Other Accidents ..	5	..	27	6	15	..	53
Total ..	467	10	364	55	768	62	1,726

(a) The figures relating to mining accidents may not in all cases correspond exactly with those published by the State Mines Departments, due to some lack of uniformity regarding the definition of a non-fatal accident. (b) Includes quarries, brick and clay pits, etc.

During the year 1950 37 fatal mining accidents occurred below ground in Australia as compared with 9 above ground. Fatal accidents in metalliferous mines in 1950 numbered 30 as against 16 in coal-mines. The number of non-fatal mining accidents below ground was 1,227 and above ground 499.

## CHAPTER V.—LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS.

## § 1. Labour Organizations.

1. **General.**—In Labour Report No. 2 an outline was given of the method adopted to ascertain the number of members of labour organizations in Australia, and tabulated results up to the end of 1912 were included. From the beginning of 1913 quarterly returns were obtained from a considerable number of trade unions, both as to membership and unemployment, and these were supplemented at the end of each year by special inquiries as to the membership of those unions which, owing to the nature of the callings and industries covered, were unable to furnish quarterly unemployment returns. The following pages show the general situation in regard to the trades union movement in Australia at present, and its development since 1939. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is greatly indebted to the secretaries of trade unions for their cordial co-operation in supplying information.

In this chapter figures for the years 1947 to 1950 are compared with 1939. Particulars for earlier years will be found in preceding issues of the Labour Report.

2. **Trade Unions—Number and Membership 1939 and 1947 to 1950.**—

The following table gives particulars of the number of separate unions and the number of members at the end of the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950 :—

Trade Unions : Number and Membership.

Year.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Terr.	A.C.T.	Aust.
NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS.									
1939..	200	149	114	117	141	79	4	15	(a) 380
1947..	212	152	122	128	145	79	8	19	(a) 395
1948..	214	156	128	136	150	90	10	21	(a) 364
1949..	212	150	125	138	152	97	12	21	(a) 349
1950..	222	152	128	138	156	98	14	28	(a) 360
NUMBER OF MEMBERS.									
1939..	358,391	216,803	180,653	67,282	67,833	22,062	761	1,685	915,470
1947..	566,326	343,162	221,723	112,350	81,903	34,109	2,442	3,478	1,365,493
1948..	596,867	370,886	238,597	119,082	87,834	36,767	2,293	3,482	1,455,808
1949..	606,139	382,503	259,339	127,292	97,706	40,700	2,860	4,375	1,520,914
1950..	642,145	406,317	262,586	137,504	103,582	45,044	2,438	5,728	1,605,344
PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.(b)									
1939..	3.3	0.8	6.5	8.7	0.1	4.8	5.6	9.6	3.4
1947..	5.4	4.3	9.4	7.7	5.7	17.0	21.1	46.9	6.3
1948..	5.4	8.1	7.6	6.0	7.2	7.8	6.1	0.1	5.9
1949..	1.6	3.1	8.7	6.9	11.2	10.7	24.7	25.6	5.2
1950..	5.9	6.2	1.3	8.0	6.0	10.7	14.8	30.9	5.6

(a) Without interstate duplication. (See letterpress below.) (b) On preceding year.

NOTE.—Minus sign (—) denotes decrease.

The types of trade unions in Australia vary greatly, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organization, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international body. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organizations :—(i) the local independent ; (ii) the State ; (iii) the interstate ; and (iv) the Australasian or international. The schemes of organization of interstate or

federated unions vary greatly in character. In some unions the State organizations are bound together under a system of unification with centralized control, while in others the State units are practically independent and self-governing, the federal bond being loose and existing only for one or two specified purposes.

In the table just given, under the heading "Number of Separate Unions", a union with members in a State is counted as one union within that State. The figures by States do not add to the Australian total (shown in the last column) because a union represented in more than one State is included in the figure for each State in which it is represented, but is counted only once in the Australian total.

Because of the difficulties involved, the collection of statistics relating to the "Number of Branches" of trade unions appearing in previous issues of this publication, has now been discontinued.

**3. Trade Unions—Industrial Groups, 1939 and 1947 to 1950.**—The following table gives the number and membership of trade unions in Australia in industrial groups at the end of the years 1947 to 1950 compared with 1939.

**Trade Unions: Industrial Groups, Australia.**

Industrial Groups.	1939.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
<b>NUMBER OF SEPARATE UNIONS. (a)</b>					
<b>Manufacturing—</b>					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	4	4	4	6	6
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	22	22	19	16	16
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	35	38	33	33	35
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	12	9	7	6	6
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	8	10	8	6	6
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	37	38	30	36	38
VII. Building ..	28	24	25	25	20
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	13	15	12	11	12
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	29	31	26	26	26
X. Other Land Transport ..	6	7	9	9	9
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	21	20	19	15	13
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	5	3	3	4	4
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	18	18	15	14	14
<b>XIV. Miscellaneous</b>					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical ..	20	16	20	16	17
(ii) Public Service ..	50	57	59	54	56
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	8	11	10	11	12
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage, and Labouring ..	11	12	9	10	11
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	53	60	56	51	53
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>360</b>
<b>NUMBER OF MEMBERS.</b>					
<b>Manufacturing—</b>					
I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ..	27,090	35,250	36,559	39,162	39,991
II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. ..	99,731	206,056	217,165	226,952	234,715
III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ..	80,328	85,960	91,636	98,564	98,029
IV. Clothing, Textiles, etc. ..	68,847	113,664	121,175	123,039	127,559
V. Books, Printing, etc. ..	22,303	29,122	29,788	32,374	33,641
VI. Other Manufacturing ..	52,074	66,239	64,251	67,432	81,766
VII. Building ..	45,651	82,716	93,291	100,225	112,050
VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ..	48,812	44,441	45,959	45,688	47,812
IX. Railway and Tramway Services ..	105,938	128,816	137,318	134,513	140,086
X. Other Land Transport ..	19,488	31,993	44,404	50,600	56,276
XI. Shipping, etc. ..	28,760	34,708	35,497	40,520	43,520
XII. Pastoral, Agricultural, etc. ..	40,276	39,610	48,631	52,687	56,735
XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ..	13,177	41,052	37,657	36,914	39,334
<b>XIV. Miscellaneous</b>					
(i) Banking, Insurance and Clerical ..	30,013	88,055	94,091	97,093	101,391
(ii) Public Service ..	89,848	151,697	164,723	165,762	174,097
(iii) Retail and Wholesale ..	36,390	47,374	48,960	52,528	53,685
(iv) Municipal, Sewerage and Labouring ..	46,552	55,382	61,154	62,761	70,635
(v) Other Miscellaneous ..	50,392	83,448	83,549	94,100	103,022
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>915,470</b>	<b>1,365,493</b>	<b>1,455,808</b>	<b>1,520,914</b>	<b>1,605,344</b>

(a) Without interstate duplication. See previous page.

**4. Trade Unions: Numbers of Male and Female Members and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners.**—(i) *States*, 1950.—Since 1939, the estimates of numbers of male and female wage and salary earners (including unemployed) have been based on data obtained largely from the National Register of July, 1939, the Civilian Register of June, 1943, the Occupation Survey of June, 1945, records of Defence Forces and the 1947 Census. The estimated numbers of wage and salary earners for the years shown in the tables below *include* (a) persons who were “not gainfully occupied” before the outbreak of war, but who subsequently entered wage-earning employment and (b) persons who in normal times would be occupied in their own business but undertook wage and salary earning employment during the war and immediate post-war period.

The following table shows for each State, the number of males, females and persons who are members of trade unions and the percentage of all wage and salary earners who are members of unions. The estimated number of wage and salary earners includes all persons in receipt of wages or salary, as well as those unemployed, and therefore embraces a number of persons who are not eligible for membership of any trade union, such as certain persons employed in professional occupations, as well as others who, while eligible for membership so far as the nature of their trade or occupation is concerned, do not reside in a locality which is covered by any union devoted to their particular trade or occupation.

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners(a), States, 1950.**

Particulars.	N.S.W. (b)	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aus- tralia. (c)
<b>MALES.</b>							
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	822,465	536,485	296,475	183,558	137,480	66,792	2,048,591
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	527,400	325,183	207,977	114,599	85,831	38,669	1,301,868
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. .. %	64.1	60.6	70.1	62.4	62.4	57.9	63.5
<b>FEMALES.</b>							
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	321,171	232,734	98,922	62,870	44,935	21,771	783,319
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	120,473	81,134	54,609	22,905	17,751	6,375	303,476
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. .. %	37.5	34.9	55.2	36.4	39.5	29.3	38.7
<b>PERSONS.</b>							
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	1,143,636	769,219	395,397	246,428	182,415	88,563	2,831,910
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	647,873	406,317	262,586	137,504	103,582	45,044	1,605,344
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. .. %	56.7	52.8	66.4	55.8	56.8	50.9	56.7

(a) Includes allowance for unemployed. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory.  
(c) Includes Northern Territory.

(ii) *Australia*.—Similar particulars for Australia for the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950 are given in the following table.

**Trade Unions: Number of Male and Female Members, and Ratio to Total Wage and Salary Earners<sup>(a)</sup>, Australia.**

Particulars.	1939.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
<b>MALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	1,783,100	1,864,235	1,933,201	1,995,227	2,048,591
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	778,336	1,087,428	1,172,676	1,226,818	1,301,868
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. %	43.7	58.3	60.7	61.5	63.5
<b>FEMALES.</b>					
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	604,800	694,772	734,348	752,664	783,319
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	137,134	278,065	283,132	294,096	303,476
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. %	22.7	40.0	38.6	39.1	38.7
<b>PERSONS.</b>					
Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. ..	2,387,900	2,559,007	2,667,549	2,747,891	2,831,910
Number of Members of Unions .. ..	915,470	1,365,493	1,455,808	1,520,914	1,605,344
Ratio of Members to Estimated Number of Wage and Salary Earners .. %	38.3	53.4	54.6	55.3	56.7

(a) Includes allowance for unemployed.

**5. Trade Unions—Classification according to Number of Members, 1939 and 1947 to 1950.**—The following table shows the number and membership of all trade unions in Australia for the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950 inclusive, classified according to size. In this table interstate unions are counted once only:—

**Trade Unions: Classification according to Number of Members, Australia.**

Classification.	10,000 and over.	5,000 and under 10,000.	2,000 and under 5,000.	1,000 and under 2,000.	500 and under 1,000.	300 and under 500.	200 and under 300.	100 and under 200.	50 and under 100.	Under 50.	Total.
<b>NUMBER OF UNIONS.</b>											
1939 ..	27	14	41	43	52	28	30	52	41	52	380
1947 ..	33	26	42	46	47	33	32	47	44	45	395
1948 ..	34	26	41	43	47	33	24	37	32	47	364
1949 ..	37	21	38	41	46	33	24	38	29	42	349
1950 ..	38	24	43	46	50	27	19	43	26	44	360
<b>MEMBERSHIP.</b>											
1939 ..	568,624	87,077	134,204	59,283	36,776	10,578	7,483	7,225	2,655	1,565	915,470
1947 ..	944,910	177,748	128,552	54,968	31,254	10,959	6,669	5,897	3,198	1,338	1,365,493
1948 ..	1,019,035	188,486	128,291	59,913	32,980	12,730	5,829	4,748	2,380	1,416	1,455,808
1949 ..	1,112,560	157,892	117,007	60,706	39,816	15,687	8,492	5,178	2,225	1,351	1,520,914
1950 ..	1,178,056	171,658	132,585	62,996	35,493	10,458	4,876	5,905	1,975	1,342	1,605,344

**PERCENTAGE ON TOTAL MEMBERSHIP.**

	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1939 ..	62.1	9.5	14.7	6.5	4.0	1.1	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.2	100.0
1947 ..	69.2	13.0	9.4	4.1	2.3	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	100.0
1948 ..	70.0	12.9	8.8	4.1	2.3	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	100.0
1949 ..	73.1	10.4	7.7	4.0	2.6	1.0	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	100.0
1950 ..	73.4	10.7	8.3	3.9	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.1	100.0

In the last part of the preceding table the percentage which the membership in each group bears to the total membership of all groups is given. The tendency towards closer organization is evidenced by the fact



that although membership of trade unions has increased since 1912 by 271 per cent., the number of unions having less than 2,000 members has considerably decreased, namely, from 360 to 255. In 1950, 7.6 per cent. of trade union members belonged to unions having less than 2,000 members as compared with 13.7 per cent. in 1939 and 28.1 per cent. in 1912.

**6. Interstate or Federated Trade Unions.**—The following table gives particulars regarding number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions having branches in two or more States. The figures include interstate unions registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, as well as federated unions which are not so registered :—

Interstate or Federated Trade Unions: Number and Membership.(a)

PARTICULARS.	UNIONS OPERATING IN—					TOTAL.
	2 States.	3 States.	4 States.	5 States.	6 States.	
Number of Unions	1939 ..	19	11	20	24	42
	1947 ..	16	18	13	33	53
	1948 ..	20	15	11	33	59
	1949 ..	13	17	11	39	58
	1950 ..	13	13	17	38	59
Number of Members	1939 ..	30,888	33,319	20,664	209,369	361,884
	1947 ..	36,251	45,674	129,384	272,455	724,040
	1948 ..	46,980	37,813	121,989	291,544	775,716
	1949 ..	32,473	44,089	65,219	437,374	774,440
	1950 ..	41,369	41,000	121,180	395,012	832,918

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in the States, branches in the Northern Territory and in the Australian Capital Territory.

The number of organizations operating in two or more States has increased from 72 in 1912 to 140 in 1950, and the percentage of the membership of such organizations on the total membership of all organizations has risen from 65 per cent. to 89 per cent. during the same period.

**7. Central Labour Organizations.**—In each of the capital cities, as well as in a number of other industrial centres, delegate organizations, consisting of representatives from a group of trade unions, have been established. Their revenue is raised by means of a *per capita* tax on the members of each affiliated union. In the majority of the towns where such central organizations exist, most of the local unions are affiliated with the central organization, which is usually known as the Labour or the Trades Hall Council, or the Labour Federation. In Western Australia a unified system of organization extends over the industrial centres throughout the State, and there is a provincial branch of the Australian Labour Party, having a central council and executive, and metropolitan and branch district councils to which the local bodies are affiliated. The central council, on which all district councils are represented, meets periodically. In the other States, however, the organization is not so close, and though provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city of each State for the organization of district councils, or for the representation on the central council of the local councils in the smaller industrial centres of the State, the councils in each State are, as a matter of fact, independent bodies. The following table gives the number of metropolitan and district or local labour councils, together with the number of unions and branches of unions affiliated therewith, in each State at the end of the years 1939 and 1947 to 1950.

## Central Labour Organizations : Number, and Branch Unions Affiliated.

Particulars.		N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N. Ter.	A.C.T.	Aus- tralia.
No. of Councils	{ 1939 ..	3	5	6	2	8	2	..	1	27
	{ 1947 ..	9	9	12	7	9	3	..	1	50
	{ 1948 ..	8	9	12	7	9	3	..	1	49
	{ 1949 ..	8	9	13	6	9	5	..	1	51
	{ 1950 ..	10	9	13	6	10	5	..	1	54
No. of Unions and Branch Unions Affiliated	{ 1939 ..	103	179	79	50	210	59	..	9	689
	{ 1947 ..	265	264	114	137	335	85	..	17	1,217
	{ 1948 ..	268	274	151	141	314	90	..	19	1,257
	{ 1949 ..	246	274	143	130	327	99	..	21	1,240
	{ 1950 ..	248	272	152	134	434	97	..	21	1,358

The figures regarding number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

Between the trade union and the central organization of unions may be classed certain State or district councils organized on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions whose member's interests are closely connected by reason of their occupations. Delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades, may be so classed.

A Central Labour Organization, called the Australasian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the Trade Unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress held in Melbourne in May, 1927. The Australasian Council is based on the Metropolitan Trades and Labour Councils in each State, such bodies having the right to appoint two representatives to act on the Executive of the Council. In addition to the representatives from the Metropolitan Councils, the Executive consists of four officers, viz., the President, two Vice-Presidents, and a Secretary, who are elected by and from the All-Australian Trade Union Congress.

The objective of the Council is the socialization of industry, i.e., production, distribution and exchange. The methods to be adopted are:— (a) The closer organization of the workers by the transformation of the Australian Trade Union Movement from the craft to an industrial basis by the establishment of one Union in each industry; (b) the consolidation of the Australasian Labour Movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; (c) the centralized control of industrial disputes; and (d) educational propaganda among Unions.

The A.C.T.U. is the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the Trade Union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting the names of suitable persons from which the Commonwealth Government selects the Australian Workers' delegate to the Annual International Labour Conference.

**8. Organizations Registered under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act.**—Under Part VI. of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act any employer or association of employers in any industry who has employed not less than 100 employees during six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry may be registered.\* Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only.

\* Under the Arbitration (Public Service) Act an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organization, provided that its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Service. Such organizations are included in the figures shown in the paragraph following.

At the end of 1950 the number of employers' organizations registered under the provisions of the Act was 52. The number of unions registered at the end of 1950 was 146, with a membership of approximately 1,331,379 representing 83 per cent. of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia.

## § 2. International Labour Organization.

**1. General.**—The International Labour Organization originated in the Peace Treaty of 1919 which made provision for the holding of International Labour Conferences and the institution of the International Labour Office. In the inter-war period, the International Labour Organization was an autonomous associate of the League of Nations, and in 1946 became the first of the specialized agencies of the United Nations. Under the terms of agreement, the United Nations recognizes the International Labour Organization as a specialized agency having responsibility in the field defined by its Constitution which embraces labour conditions, industrial relations, employment organization, social security, and other aspects of social policy. The Organization has three basic parts. These are the International Labour Conference, its highest authority, which, as a rule, meets annually; the Governing Body, its executive council which usually meets four times a year; and the International Labour Office which provides the secretariat of the Organization. The Conference is composed of national delegations comprising two government delegates and one delegate each of employers and workers, together with their advisers. The Governing Body comprises the representatives of sixteen governments, eight worker members and eight employer members. Particulars are given in previous Labour Reports of the proceedings at International Labour Conferences up to the 33rd Session which opened in Geneva on 7th June, 1950.

**2. The 34th Session.**—The 34th Session of the International Labour Conference was held at Geneva from 6th to 30th June, 1951.

The Australian Delegation included the following:—Government Delegates: Mr. W. Funnell (Leader, Secretary of Department of Labour and National Service; Dr. I. G. Sharp, Department of Labour and National Service; Employers' Delegate: Mr. H. J. Hendy; Workers' Delegate: Hon. A. J. White.

Yugoslavia resumed its membership and the Conference approved of the admission to membership of the Federal Republic of Germany and of Japan. The Federal Republic of Germany immediately assumed membership; Japan had to wait for formal ratification by the Diet. The Conference adopted two conventions, one on equal remuneration for men and women workers for work of equal value, the other on minimum wage-fixing machinery in agriculture.

Other items discussed were the Director-General's Report, financial and budgetary questions, information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations, social security, industrial relations and holidays with pay in agriculture.

**3. Governing Body.**—At the triennial elections to the Governing Body held during the 34th Conference, Australia was elected a Deputy Government member, and Mr. A. E. Monk was re-elected a titular Workers' Member.

During 1950-51 the Governing Body held its 113th to 115th Sessions. At the 113th held at Brussels, Australia was represented by Dr. A. Wynes. The 114th and 115th sessions were held at Geneva. Australia was represented at the former by Mr. B. C. Ballard, Australian Representative to the European Office of the United Nations and at the latter by Mr. P. Shaw, Mr. Ballard's successor.

# APPENDIX.

## SECTION I.

Sydney : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	7.37	7.37	7.82	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.87	7.87	9.23	7.90
Flour, ordinary ..	"	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.25	6.17	6.17	6.17	6.17	6.17	6.17	6.21
" self-raising ..	"	10.95	10.95	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.10	11.05	11.05	11.05	11.10	11.04
Tea ..	lb.	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	36.50
Sugar ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Sago ..	"	9.35	9.35	9.35	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.05	9.55	9.05	9.70	9.70	9.39
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	18.05	18.05	18.05	19.85	20.05	20.25	20.25	20.25	20.25	20.30	20.40	20.40	19.68
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.90	8.90	8.90	8.95	9.00	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	9.00	8.95
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.00	6.15	6.15	7.20	8.00	8.00	8.04	8.04	8.21	8.21	8.21	8.15	7.53
Raisins, seeded ..	"	17.00	17.00	17.00	18.75	20.13	20.13	20.13	20.13	20.13	20.13	20.38	20.38	19.27
Currants ..	"	13.10	13.10	13.10	15.40	16.50	16.72	16.72	16.69	16.67	16.67	16.67	15.66	15.66
Apricots, dried ..	"	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	34.33	34.33	34.33	34.33	34.33	34.33	34.33	34.33	31.55
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	19.60	19.60	20.50	20.75	21.50	21.50	21.45	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.60	21.04
Pears, canned ..	"	20.60	20.60	21.75	22.00	22.92	22.94	22.90	23.00	22.95	23.00	22.95	22.90	22.38
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	24.50	24.50	24.50	28.00	28.00	23.33
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.92	4.67	4.50	4.42	4.33	4.42	4.42	4.50	4.50	5.00	6.00	6.00	4.72
Soap ..	"	9.43	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.29	10.22
Kerosene ..	quart	6.74	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.41	7.36	7.41	7.41	7.35
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	38.45	41.45	44.50	47.50	47.50	47.50	47.50	37.55	37.75	40.85	40.80	44.90	43.02
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	39.15	40.00	40.55	44.45	44.70	44.85	44.85	49.44	49.44	49.55	47.05	46.35	44.81
Milk, condensed ..	tin	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	14.40	14.40	14.40	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.15
" fresh ..	quart	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.13
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.15	19.15	19.15	19.15	20.21	20.21	24.80	24.80	24.80	20.79
" rib ..	"	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.11	12.11	12.11	12.11	13.31	13.31	16.67	16.67	16.67	13.52
" steak, rump ..	"	28.50	28.45	28.50	28.80	28.80	28.60	28.60	30.03	30.03	34.58	34.58	34.58	30.44
" chuck ..	"	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.10	14.10	14.10	15.18	15.18	18.37	18.37	18.37	15.41
" sausages ..	"	12.70	12.67	12.75	12.65	12.55	12.65	12.65	13.28	13.28	14.84	14.84	14.84	13.36
Beef (corned) silver side ..	"	15.50	15.40	15.45	15.60	15.60	15.60	15.60	16.46	16.46	19.97	19.97	19.97	16.87
" brisket ..	"	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.10	12.10	12.10	12.10	13.14	13.14	16.27	16.27	16.27	13.38
Mutton, leg ..	"	11.50	11.45	11.50	11.70	11.70	11.70	11.70	14.04	14.04	15.96	15.96	15.96	13.30
" forequarter ..	"	6.95	6.95	7.00	7.15	7.15	7.15	7.15	9.46	9.46	10.87	10.87	10.87	8.61
" loin ..	"	14.00	14.00	14.10	14.30	14.30	14.30	14.30	17.33	17.33	18.07	18.07	18.07	15.93
" chops, loin ..	"	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.10	15.10	15.10	15.10	17.89	17.89	18.48	18.48	18.48	16.62
" " leg ..	"	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.10	15.10	15.10	15.10	17.94	17.94	18.59	18.59	18.59	16.66
Pork, leg ..	"	30.20	30.50	31.30	31.40	31.40	31.40	31.40	33.73	33.73	38.30	38.30	38.30	33.47
" loin ..	"	30.80	31.10	32.20	32.30	32.00	32.00	32.00	35.00	35.00	39.47	39.47	39.47	34.48
" chops ..	"	31.50	31.80	33.00	32.90	32.60	32.60	32.60	35.33	35.33	40.13	40.13	40.13	35.06

## SECTION I.—continued.

## Melbourne : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
<b>Groceries, &amp;c.—</b>														
Bread ..	2 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Flour, ordinary ..	"	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50
" self-raising ..	"	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.72
Tea ..	lb.	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	9.95	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.05	9.98
Sugar ..	"	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	36.50
Sago ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	8.39	7.50	7.75	7.50	7.38	7.38	7.44	7.72	8.17	8.35	8.40	8.60	7.88
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	16.05	16.00	16.00	16.80	16.85	16.90	16.85	16.90	16.90	16.90	17.00	17.00	16.68
Ons, flaked ..	lb.	9.56	9.50	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.56	9.40	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.55	9.54
Raisins, seeded ..	"	5.69	5.81	6.13	6.46	6.46	6.66	6.84	6.47	6.41	6.47	6.47	6.53	6.37
Currants ..	"	17.25	17.25	17.35	18.39	18.39	18.67	18.67	19.71	20.00	20.25	19.83	19.80	18.80
Apricots, dried ..	"	13.56	13.33	13.44	14.50	15.14	15.57	15.57	15.50	15.50	15.50	15.38	15.29	14.86
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17	25.17
Pears, canned ..	"	18.50	18.50	19.56	20.57	20.71	20.56	20.69	20.78	20.78	20.89	20.72	20.72	20.25
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	19.60	19.70	20.83	21.78	22.06	21.94	22.00	22.10	22.15	22.20	22.06	21.94	21.53
Onions, brown ..	lb.	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.52	21.43	25.73	23.36	26.00	28.00	28.00	30.92	24.08
Soap ..	"	3.67	3.58	3.71	3.86	3.86	3.70	3.67	3.58	3.58	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.02
Kerosene ..	quart	10.67	11.47	11.38	11.38	11.38	11.47	11.47	11.47	11.47	11.47	11.47	11.56	11.39
<b>Dairy Produce—</b>														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	6.88	7.27	7.24	7.24	7.35	7.39	7.53	7.42	7.42	7.42	7.42	7.44	7.34
Cheese, mild ..	"	26.30	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35	26.35
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.50
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	33.90	34.00	40.00	43.00	44.00	44.10	44.00	37.90	37.80	37.80	37.80	41.00	39.61
Milk, condensed ..	tin	40.63	44.13	44.25	44.25	44.25	44.25	44.25	44.25	44.38	44.63	44.75	44.75	44.06
" fresh ..	quart	14.00	13.90	14.00	14.00	14.90	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.63
<b>Meat—</b>														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	19.50	19.60	19.60	19.80	20.20	20.30	September Quarter.			December Quarter.			21.28
" rib ..	"	16.30	16.40	16.50	17.17	17.15	17.20	21.17			24.28			18.21
" steak, rump ..	"	28.60	28.60	28.60	29.20	29.50	29.50	17.97			21.29			30.62
" " chuck ..	"	13.90	13.90	14.60	14.80	14.60	14.60	30.23			34.25			15.48
" sausages ..	"	12.30	12.20	12.80	12.90	13.28	13.28	15.13			17.09			13.47
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"							13.37			14.94			
" " brisket ..	"	18.65	18.60	18.80	19.45	19.25	19.25	20.17			23.33			20.37
Mutton, leg ..	"	13.00	13.00	13.11	13.44	13.33	13.33	14.22			17.40			14.51
" " forequarter ..	"	13.88	13.81	14.13	14.25	14.38	14.38	15.40			17.05			15.41
" " loin ..	"	7.63	7.50	7.94	8.56	8.69	8.56	9.48			11.79			9.39
" " chops, loin ..	"	12.14	12.29	12.71	13.25	13.50	13.50	14.54			16.56			14.22
" " leg ..	"	13.00	13.00	13.50	14.50	14.63	14.75	15.28			17.42			15.12
Pork, leg ..	"	13.81	13.81	14.19	14.94	15.06	15.19	15.93			18.21			15.78
" " loin ..	"	32.57	32.14	32.00	32.43	31.75	31.50	33.33			36.88			33.58
" " chops ..	"	33.43	33.00	33.50	33.57	32.13	32.63	34.34			37.52			34.49
	"	33.71	33.29	34.83	34.71	33.25	33.59	34.67			38.05			35.12

## SECTION I.—continued.

## Brisbane : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.50	8.50	9.00	8.17
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.36	5.41	5.36
" self-raising ..	"	11.18	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23	11.23
Tea ..	lb.	31.41	31.41	31.41	31.41	31.64	31.64	39.09	39.09	39.09	39.09	39.09	39.09	35.29
Sugar ..	"	4.95	4.98	4.95	4.95	4.91	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.96	4.95
Sago ..	"	8.80	8.75	8.85	8.77	8.64	8.55	8.55	8.67	9.00	8.95	8.95	9.00	8.79
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	15.64	16.27	16.55	16.59	16.55	16.55	16.55	16.68	16.68	16.68	16.64	16.77	16.51
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	8.72	8.82	8.82	8.82	8.82	8.86	8.86	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.95	8.91	8.87
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.00
Raisins, seeded ..	"	17.00	17.05	17.05	17.05	17.56	19.60	19.50	20.00	19.78	19.83	19.83	19.83	18.67
Currants ..	"	13.67	13.67	13.67	13.67	13.67	13.67	13.67	16.38	16.38	16.38	16.38	16.38	14.80
Apricots, dried ..	"	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00	27.00
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	20.75	21.00	21.00	21.42	21.42	23.07	23.50	23.79	23.75	23.75	23.44	23.19	22.51
Pears, canned ..	"	21.75	22.17	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.20	22.20	24.60	24.60	24.33	24.25	24.37	23.09
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	23.05	22.86	21.41	21.23	21.00	21.00	21.00	22.82	23.94	20.10	24.50	24.82	22.81
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.40	4.56	4.56	4.18	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.13	4.36	4.36	5.88	5.88	4.57
Soap ..	"	9.82	10.43	10.49	10.49	10.49	10.52	10.55	10.49	10.43	10.43	10.49	10.49	10.43
Kerosene ..	quart	6.29	6.80	6.85	6.85	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.91	6.93	6.93	6.93	6.91	6.84
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.91	25.86	25.86	25.86	25.86	25.91	25.91	25.89
Cheese, mild ..	"	17.41	17.55	17.55	17.55	17.77	17.77	18.36	17.95	17.95	17.95	17.95	17.95	17.81
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	36.00	36.00	37.00	38.91	42.00	42.00	42.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	38.08
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	33.09	33.18	33.18	33.27	33.27	33.27	33.27	33.32	35.50	35.41	36.91	37.36	34.25
Milk, condensed ..	tin	13.64	13.64	13.64	13.64	14.68	14.64	14.64	14.73	14.73	14.73	14.68	14.68	14.34
" fresh ..	quart	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.60	10.31
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	18.55	18.55	19.00	19.00	19.05	19.05		19.53			21.10		19.59
" rib ..	"	11.39	11.44	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50		11.99			14.00		12.23
" steak, rump ..	"	23.55	23.55	24.55	24.55	24.55	24.55		25.20			27.15		25.20
" chuck ..	"	12.00	12.00	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.55		13.08			14.18		13.00
" sausages ..	"	11.17	11.17	11.56	11.61	11.61	11.61		11.83			11.93		11.67
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	15.00	15.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00		16.32			18.00		16.41
" brisket ..	"	12.10	12.10	12.55	12.65	12.55	12.65		13.04			14.11		13.00
Mutton, leg ..	"	12.15	12.15	12.15	12.45	12.90	12.30		13.72			14.86		13.32
" forequarter ..	"	7.55	7.50	7.50	7.75	7.90	7.80		8.63			10.24		8.55
" loin ..	"	11.39	11.39	11.39	11.72	12.06	11.61		12.58			13.55		12.33
" chops, loin ..	"	12.55	12.55	12.55	12.85	13.30	12.65		14.01			15.15		13.66
" leg ..	"	12.17	12.17	12.17	12.50	12.78	12.33		13.51			14.37		13.15
Pork, leg ..	"	27.33	27.30	28.11	29.40	29.33	29.56		31.27			33.39		30.57
" loin ..	"	27.44	27.40	28.22	29.70	29.33	29.56		31.20			33.39		30.45
" chops ..	"	27.94	27.85	28.61	29.85	29.50	29.72		31.31			33.44		30.64

## SECTION I.—continued.

Adelaide : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	9.00	7.71
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.55	5.51
" self-raising ..	"	8.55	8.55	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.60	8.65	8.65	9.05	8.95	9.05	9.10	8.75
Tea ..	lb.	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	36.50
Sugar ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Sago ..	"	8.35	8.35	8.35	8.30	8.35	8.35	8.65	9.00	9.00	9.55	9.80	9.95	8.83
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	16.55	16.55	16.55	17.40	17.45	17.45	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.60	17.75	17.75	17.32
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	9.25	9.45	9.45	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.47
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.25	6.58	7.33	7.65	7.80	7.90	7.92	7.92	7.92	7.92	7.96	7.96	7.50
Raisins, seeded ..	"	17.20	17.20	17.20	17.90	18.75	18.50	19.63	19.90	20.00	20.59	20.88	20.17	18.90
Currants ..	"	13.60	13.60	13.65	15.20	15.45	15.85	15.85	15.85	15.85	15.90	15.90	15.90	15.22
Apricots, dried ..	"	25.50	25.50	25.50	27.83	28.94	28.94	28.94	28.88	28.79	28.79	28.67	28.67	27.91
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	18.50	19.20	20.25	20.20	20.25	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.30	20.35	20.39	20.39	20.06
Pears, canned ..	"	19.50	19.50	20.61	21.40	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.50	21.08
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	19.71	19.71	19.71	20.21	20.21	20.21	20.18	21.25	22.71	28.00	34.00	28.00	22.82
Onions, brown ..	lb.	4.13	4.13	3.63	3.70	4.17	5.40	6.42	6.58	7.83	9.00	8.50	9.00	6.04
Soap ..	"	10.00	10.60	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.61
Kerosene ..	quart	6.03	6.61	6.75	6.71	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.77	6.77	6.77	6.68
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00
Cheese, mild ..	"	17.72	17.72	17.89	17.89	17.89	17.89	17.89	17.89	17.89	17.94	17.94	17.94	17.87
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	37.50	39.10	41.40	41.70	43.50	43.50	43.50	36.50	35.50	35.10	36.50	39.50	39.44
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	38.15	41.30	41.30	41.25	41.30	41.20	41.20	41.20	41.20	41.15	41.10	41.15	40.96
Milk, condensed ..	tin	12.85	12.85	12.85	12.85	13.85	13.85	13.85	13.85	13.85	13.85	13.90	13.90	13.52
" fresh ..	quart	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	10.08
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	September Quarter.			December Quarter.			17.48
" rib ..	"	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50	17.00			18.91			17.84
" steak, rump ..	"	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	14.53			15.83			26.01
" " chuck ..	"	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	25.35			28.69			15.62
" sausages ..	"	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	15.27			17.21			10.37
Beef (corned) silver														
side	"	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	10.08			11.39			
brisket	"	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	13.50	17.20			19.75			17.74
Mutton, leg ..	"	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.87			15.06			13.98
" forequarter ..	"	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	14.33			16.36			14.17
" loin ..	"	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.11	8.61			9.63			8.31
" chops, loin ..	"	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	13.48			15.54			12.76
" " leg ..	"	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.15	13.11	14.33			16.23			13.64
Pork, leg ..	"	29.75	30.25	30.25	31.14	30.89	30.11	15.10			16.94			14.58
" loin ..	"	30.08	30.42	30.42	31.57	31.33	30.78	30.36			32.89			31.01
" chops ..	"	30.42	30.75	30.75	31.71	31.67	31.11	31.04			33.13			31.43
								31.32			33.48			31.73

## SECTION I.—continued.

## Perth : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
Groceries, &c.—		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.92
Flour, ordinary ..	"	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.20	6.02
" self-raising ..	"	10.45	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	11.40	10.57
Tea ..	lb.	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	36.50
Sugar ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Sago ..	"	8.65	8.25	8.20	8.00	7.85	7.85	7.90	8.40	8.20	8.25	8.60	9.15	8.27
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	18.40	18.30	18.30	18.30	18.35	18.30	18.30	18.40	18.25	18.10	18.25	18.20	18.29
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	10.06	10.00	10.06	10.06	10.07	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.06	10.05	10.10	10.04
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.00	6.00	6.38	7.25	7.70	7.83	7.83	7.83	8.21	8.00	8.17	8.10	7.44
Raisins, seeded ..	"	16.60	17.00	18.25	18.25	20.25	20.25	23.33	23.33	23.33	23.33	23.67	24.70	21.02
Currants ..	"	13.50	13.50	14.30	14.30	16.33	17.00	17.10	17.00	17.00	17.11	17.06	17.50	15.97
Apricots, dried ..	"	28.50	29.00	28.50	28.50	29.50	29.50	29.50	29.50	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00	31.37
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	21.29	21.25	21.13	21.17	21.17	23.00	23.30	23.50	23.60	23.75	23.67	23.70	22.54
Pears, canned ..	"	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	24.33	24.38	24.33	24.67	25.00	25.00	24.90	23.76
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	17.50	17.55	17.50	17.50	19.05	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	18.76
Onions, brown ..	lb.	3.70	3.78	3.70	4.10	4.50	4.50	5.00	5.00	5.00	8.92	4.00	4.00	4.68
Soap ..	"	10.00	10.67	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.26	11.11
Kerosene ..	quart	8.13	8.97	9.05	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.16	9.05
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50
Cheese, mild ..	"	19.06	19.00	19.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.00	20.50
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	41.00	41.00	42.00	43.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	42.00	41.67
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	37.50	37.50	37.80	37.80	37.90	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	41.00	43.45	39.41
Milk, condensed ..	tin	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.67
" fresh ..	quart	11.00	11.00	11.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.75
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	September Quarter.			December Quarter.			20.09
" rib ..	"	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	19.78			22.59			17.21
" steak, rump ..	"	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	16.67			20.16			26.32
" " chuck ..	"	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	25.73			19.63			17.06
" sausages ..	"	12.33	12.00	12.29	12.36	12.71	12.93	13.64			14.54			13.26
Beef (corned) silver-side	"	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.70			20.37			18.02
" " brisket	"	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.70			17.40			15.02
Mutton, leg ..	"	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	17.00			19.27			17.07
" " forequarter	"	8.00	8.00	8.90	9.00	9.00	9.00	10.40			12.97			10.17
" " loin ..	"	15.56	15.67	15.67	15.78	15.70	15.70	16.65			19.08			16.77
" " chops, loin	"	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.87			19.13			17.00
" " leg ..	"	15.00	15.20	15.30	15.50	15.40	15.40	16.49			18.80			16.47
Pork, leg ..	"	32.40	32.40	33.00	34.80	34.80	35.50	36.21			37.63			35.37
" " loin ..	"	32.40	32.40	33.00	34.80	34.80	35.50	36.21			37.63			35.37
" " chops ..	"	32.40	32.40	33.00	34.80	34.80	35.50	36.21			37.63			35.37



## SECTION I.—continued.

Hobart : Average Retail Prices of Chief Food and Groceries Items during each Month of the Year, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Average, 1950.
Groceries, &c.—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread ..	2 lb.	7.50	7.50	7.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	9.00	7.96
Flour, ordinary ..	"	5.60	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.65	5.60	5.60	5.70	5.64
self-raising ..	"	9.50	9.50	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.15	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.14
Tea ..	lb.	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	36.50
Sugar ..	"	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Sago ..	"	9.39	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.60	9.50	9.50	9.60	9.55	10.00	10.15	9.64
Jam, plum ..	1½ lb.	12.65	12.65	12.65	14.85	15.00	15.05	15.00	15.00	15.05	15.00	15.05	15.45	14.45
Golden Syrup ..	2 lb.	10.00	10.08	10.06	10.06	10.06	10.06	10.06	10.05	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.10	10.07
Oats, flaked ..	lb.	6.50	6.50	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	7.75
Raisins, seeded ..	"	18.00	18.00	18.00	20.33	20.63	20.56	20.50	20.92	20.92	21.50	21.50	21.50	20.20
Currants ..	"	13.95	13.95	13.95	15.83	16.86	16.56	16.94	16.94	17.33	17.35	17.35	17.35	16.20
Apricots, dried ..	"	26.14	26.14	26.14	26.14	26.14	30.00	29.80	30.75	30.75	29.75	29.75	29.75	28.44
Peaches, canned ..	30 oz.	19.25	19.05	19.05	21.25	21.50	21.69	21.78	21.71	21.89	21.71	21.81	21.94	21.05
Pears, canned ..	"	20.00	19.83	19.83	21.80	21.93	22.07	22.40	22.33	22.45	22.39	22.39	22.56	21.66
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	19.57	19.67	19.44	19.44	19.44	18.90	18.90	19.84	20.42	21.42	25.27	31.80	21.18
Onions, brown ..	lb.	5.30	6.33	6.20	6.00	5.90	5.80	6.50	7.00	7.00	9.50	9.50	9.50	7.04
Soap ..	"	10.00	10.60	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.67	10.61
Kerosene ..	quart	9.43	9.48	9.67	10.19	10.19	10.28	10.24	10.24	10.24	10.24	10.24	10.24	10.06
Dairy Produce—														
Butter, factory ..	lb.	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50	26.50
Cheese, mild ..	"	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	18.42
Eggs, new laid ..	doz.	36.50	39.20	41.55	44.17	45.50	45.50	45.50	36.20	36.15	36.15	36.10	39.45	40.16
Bacon, rashers ..	lb.	38.60	38.60	38.60	39.30	39.30	39.40	39.60	39.60	39.90	39.90	39.90	40.60	39.16
Milk, condensed ..	tin	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	14.67
" fresh ..	quart	10.00	10.00	10.00	11.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00	11.42
Meat—														
Beef, sirloin ..	lb.	22.00	20.83	20.72	21.00	21.00	21.00	21.63	21.63	21.63	22.30	22.30	22.30	21.53
" rib ..	"	20.00	18.64	18.29	18.69	18.36	18.36	18.93	18.93	18.93	19.79	19.79	19.79	19.04
" steak, rump ..	"	28.00	26.78	26.72	26.89	26.78	26.89	27.33	27.33	27.33	28.28	28.28	28.28	27.41
" chuck ..	"	18.11	16.89	16.72	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.41	17.41	17.41	18.28	18.28	18.28	17.48
" sausages ..	"	11.67	11.67	11.67	11.67	11.78	11.78	11.85	11.85	11.85	12.39	12.39	12.39	11.91
Beef (corned) silver-side ..	"	21.11	19.50	19.72	19.72	19.61	19.83	20.34	20.34	20.34	21.14	21.14	21.14	20.33
brisket ..	"	18.00	16.78	16.83	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.33	17.33	17.33	18.39	18.39	18.39	17.48
Mutton, leg ..	"	13.63	12.19	12.00	12.19	12.44	12.44	15.02	15.02	15.02	16.85	16.85	16.85	14.21
" forequarter ..	"	7.81	6.44	6.25	6.69	6.19	6.19	8.28	8.28	8.28	9.61	9.61	9.61	7.77
" loin ..	"	13.58	12.21	12.00	12.21	12.21	12.21	14.42	14.42	14.42	15.20	15.20	15.20	13.61
" chops, loin ..	"	13.63	12.19	12.00	12.19	12.19	12.19	14.81	14.81	14.81	15.70	15.70	15.70	13.83
" leg ..	"	13.63	12.19	12.00	12.19	12.19	12.19	14.75	14.75	14.75	16.24	16.24	16.24	13.95
Pork, leg ..	"	31.67	31.00	31.00	31.67	31.00	31.33	32.18	32.18	32.18	34.20	34.20	34.20	32.23
" loin ..	"	30.56	30.56	30.22	30.89	30.67	31.33	31.93	31.93	31.93	33.77	33.77	33.77	31.78
" chops ..	"	32.00	31.78	31.78	32.44	32.11	32.50	32.74	32.74	32.74	34.60	34.60	34.60	32.89

## SECTION II.

## Weekly House Rents (a) in Metropolitan and Provincial Towns.

TOWN.	WEIGHTED AVERAGE WEEKLY RENTS FOR 4 AND 5 ROOMS COMBINED.						
	1939.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>							
Sydney .. ..	23 3	23 5	23 5	23 5	23 6	23 7	23 7
Newcastle .. ..	20 0	20 4	20 4	20 4	20 4	20 5	20 5
Broken Hill .. ..	16 0	15 11	16 0	16 0	16 0	16 3	16 5
Goulburn .. ..	18 3	18 7	18 7	18 7	18 7	18 8	18 8
Bathurst .. ..	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 8	17 9	17 9	17 9
Five Towns(b) ..	22 9	22 11	23 0	23 0	23 0	23 2	23 2
<b>VICTORIA—</b>							
Melbourne .. ..	21 5	21 11	21 11	21 11	21 11	21 11	22 0
Ballarat .. ..	15 0	14 11	15 0	15 0	15 1	15 2	15 3
Bendigo .. ..	15 4	15 7	15 7	15 7	15 8	15 9	16 1
Geelong .. ..	19 8	19 11	19 11	19 11	20 0	20 0	20 0
Warrnambool ..	19 4	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 7	19 10
Five Towns(b) ..	21 0	21 5	21 5	21 5	21 5	21 6	21 7
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>							
Brisbane .. ..	19 2	19 5	19 5	19 5	19 5	19 6	19 10
Toowoomba .. ..	17 9	18 0	18 1	18 1	18 4	18 6	19 0
Rockhampton ..	16 11	17 3	17 5	17 6	17 8	17 11	18 0
Townsville .. ..	18 1	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2	18 2
Bundaberg .. ..	13 5	14 2	14 4	14 4	14 5	14 6	14 9
Five Towns(b) ..	18 8	18 11	18 11	18 11	19 0	19 1	19 5
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>							
Adelaide .. ..	19 11	20 1	20 1	20 2	20 3	20 6	20 10
Kadina, etc. ..	8 2	8 1	8 2	8 4	8 5	8 6	8 6
Port Pirie .. ..	14 11	15 0	14 11	14 11	14 11	14 11	15 0
Mount Gambier ..	14 5	15 0	15 0	15 1	15 1	15 2	15 4
Peterborough ..	15 9	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 11	16 0	16 1
Five Towns(b) ..	19 3	19 4	19 5	19 8	19 7	19 10	20 2
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>							
Perth and Fremantle ..	19 9	19 11	19 11	19 11	20 0	20 1	20 3
Kalgoorlie and Boulder ..	27 8	21 9	22 1	22 8	22 9	23 0	23 7
Norham .. ..	18 7	18 10	18 11	18 10	19 3	20 1	20 3
Bunbury .. ..	21 1	20 6	20 6	20 7	20 8	21 1	21 7
Geraldton .. ..	22 4	22 3	22 4	22 4	22 4	22 8	23 0
Five Towns(b) ..	20 5	20 1	20 1	20 2	20 3	20 5	20 7
<b>TASMANIA—</b>							
Hobart .. ..	20 9	21 0	21 0	21 0	21 0	21 1	21 2
Launceston .. ..	19 1	19 4	19 5	19 5	19 7	19 8	19 8
Burnie .. ..	17 6	17 10	17 11	17 11	17 11	17 11	17 11
Devonport .. ..	16 0	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 2	16 4
Queenstown .. ..	16 11	16 11	17 0	17 1	17 2	17 2	17 2
Five Towns(b) ..	19 9	20 0	20 0	20 1	20 1	20 2	20 3
Thirty Towns(b) ..	21 2	21 5	21 5	21 5	21 6	21 8	21 9
Six Capitals(b) ..	21 8	21 11	21 11	21 11	22 0	22 1	22 2

(a) The rents are shown to the nearest penny. Revised series comparable only with averages published since December Quarter, 1936. See footnote (b) on page 10 and sub-paragraph (vii) on page 2 as to the meaning of these averages. Rentals of new tenanted houses completed since the end of the war are not taken into account in the above table.

(b) Weighted average.

## SECTION III.

## Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1950.

(Particulars extracted from Official Publications and Reports. Prices are quoted in the currency of the country concerned.)

Article.	Unit or Quan- tity.	AUSTRALIA.								NEW ZEALAND.							
		Sydney.				Melbourne.				Wellington.				Christchurch.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Bread .. ..	2 lb.	7.37	7.87	7.87	7.87	8.50	8.50	8.50	8.50	5.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	5.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
Flour, ordinary .. ..	lb.	6.25	6.25	6.17	6.17	5.70	5.70	5.70	5.75	4.29	7.28	7.28	7.43	4.08	7.14	7.14	7.14
Tea .. ..	lb.	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	33.00	33.00	40.00	40.00	51.30	72.20	72.20	74.00	51.00	72.00	72.00	74.00
Jam, plum .. ..	1½ lb.	18.05	20.05	20.25	20.40	16.00	16.85	16.90	17.00	21.00	20.92	25.37	25.63	20.40	20.40	25.63	25.63
Sugar .. ..	lb.	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	6.25	6.75	6.75	6.75	6.25	6.75	6.75	6.75
Oatmeal .. ..	"	6.15	8.00	8.04	8.21	5.81	6.46	6.47	6.47	6.33	6.33	6.35	6.37	6.40	6.40	6.40	6.40
Raisins .. ..	"	17.00	20.13	20.13	20.38	17.25	18.39	19.71	19.83	29.30	29.30	29.80	29.80	29.80	29.80	29.80	29.80
Peaches, canned .. ..	30-oz. tin	19.60	21.50	21.50	21.50	18.50	20.71	20.78	20.78	26.38	26.67	31.38	32.13	25.50	25.50	36.00	36.00
Potatoes .. ..	7 lb.	21.00	21.00	24.50	28.00	21.00	21.52	23.36	28.00	18.20	18.41	19.04	18.90	14.00	11.97	12.67	13.02
Onions .. ..	lb.	4.67	4.33	4.50	3.58	3.58	3.86	3.58	5.00	4.67	5.00	8.50	22.33	2.50	2.75	7.50	18.00
Milk .. ..	quart	10.00	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.53	11.68	11.68	11.42	6.50	7.00	8.00	8.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
Butter .. ..	lb.	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.00	26.35	26.35	26.35	18.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	18.00	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
Cheese .. ..	"	19.50	19.50	19.50	19.50	18.50	18.50	18.50	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.50	17.90	17.90	18.00	18.50	18.50
Eggs .. ..	dozen	41.45	47.50	37.55	40.80	34.00	44.00	37.00	37.80	33.40	52.00	37.00	37.00	30.50	48.00	34.75	35.00
Bacon .. ..	lb.	40.00	44.70	49.44	46.75	44.13	44.25	44.25	44.75	25.90	25.90	26.10	28.00	26.50	26.40	26.10	28.80
			(b)	(b)	(b)		(b)	(b)	(b)								
Beef, sirloin .. ..	"	19.00	19.15	20.21	24.80	19.60	20.20	21.17	24.28	17.00	17.67	17.67	19.00	17.00	18.00	17.33	18.33
" rib .. ..	"	12.00	12.11	13.31	16.67	16.40	17.15	17.97	21.29	14.00	14.67	15.00	17.33	14.00	16.33	16.33	16.67
" steak, rump .. ..	"	28.45	28.60	30.03	34.58	28.50	29.50	30.23	34.25	19.00	19.67	20.33	21.67	19.00	21.00	21.00	21.33
" sausages .. ..	"	12.67	12.55	13.28	14.84	12.20	13.28	13.37	14.94	10.67	11.00	11.00	11.33	10.33	10.67	11.00	11.00
Mutton, leg .. ..	"	11.45	11.70	14.04	15.96	13.81	14.38	15.40	17.95	15.00	15.33	16.33	18.33	15.00	16.00	17.00	17.33
" forequarter .. ..	"	6.95	7.15	9.40	10.87	7.50	8.69	9.48	11.79	9.00	9.00	9.50	11.50	9.00	9.83	10.67	10.67
" chops .. ..	"	15.00	15.10	17.94	18.59	13.81	15.06	15.93	18.21	15.50	17.33	17.00	19.00	15.50	16.50	16.67	17.33
Pork, leg .. ..	"	30.50	31.10	33.73	38.30	32.14	31.75	33.33	36.88	16.00	18.33	19.33	20.00	16.00	19.33	20.00	20.00
" chops .. ..	"	31.80	32.60	35.33	40.13	33.29	33.25	34.67	38.05	18.00	20.33	20.33	21.00	18.00	19.67	20.33	20.33

(a) Sultanias.

(b) Average for September quarter.

(c) Average for December quarter.

SECTION III.—continued.

Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1950—continued.

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	UNITED KINGDOM.(a)				UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.							
						Capetown.				Witwatersrand.			
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
Bread ..	2 lb.	d. 6.3	d. 6.3	d. 6.3	d. 6.3	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9	d. 7.9
Flour, ordinary ..	"	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.8
Tea ..	lb.	..	..	..	..	82.6	85.1	75.9	84.2	84.4	83.5	74.8	82.9
Jam ..	1½ lb.	(b) 27.8	..	..	..	(c) 14.2	14.6	14.8	14.8	15.1	15.6	15.7	15.7
Sugar ..	lb.	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.6
Rice ..	"	..	..	..	..	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Oatmeal ..	"	..	..	..	..	7.7	8.5	8.5	8.5	7.2	8.5	8.5	8.5
Raisins ..	"	..	..	..	..	16.2	18.6	19.3	19.6	18.4	20.0	20.7	21.0
Peaches, canned ..	30-oz. tin	..	..	..	..	19.0	22.1	22.3	22.8	21.3	23.2	24.4	24.7
Potatoes ..	7 lb.	..	..	..	..	23.1	30.1	31.5	28.7	17.5	25.2	28.0	23.1
Onions ..	lb.	..	..	..	..	3.5	3.9	4.1	5.7	3.3	4.5	3.9	3.5
Milk ..	quart	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.6	10.6	10.0	10.6	10.6	10.6
Butter ..	lb.	18.0	22.0	22.0	24.0	30.0	30.0	33.0	33.0	30.0	30.1	33.0	33.0
Cheese ..	"	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	24.5	24.5	24.5	26.9	24.5	24.5	26.9	26.9
Eggs ..	dozen	42.0	36.0	39.0	45.0	36.2	48.3	26.4	26.2	35.7	47.2	26.6	25.7
Bacon ..	lb.	28.0	26.0	30.0	26.0	32.4	32.5	32.5	32.7	33.0	33.0	33.0	32.5
Beef, sirloin ..	"	(d) 26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	} 13.0	13.0	15.0	15.0	16.4	16.4	18.5	18.4
" rib ..	"	(e) 22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0								
" steak, rump ..	"	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.4	10.4	11.5	11.4
Mutton, leg ..	"	(d) 24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	20.0	20.0	21.0	21.0	22.3	22.2	24.4	24.2
" ..	"	(e) 17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	} 17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	16.7	16.7	16.8	16.8
Pork, leg ..	"	..	..	..	..								
" chops ..	"	..	..	..	..	20.0	20.0	22.0	22.0	20.7	20.8	21.2	21.2
" ..	"	..	..	..	..	20.0	20.0	22.0	22.0	23.9	24.0	24.6	24.5

(a) Fixed maximum prices.

(b) Strawberry jam.

(c) Union jam.

(d) British.

(e) Imported.

SECTION III.—*continued.*Average Retail Prices of Food in Principal Cities : Australia and Other Countries, 1950—*continued.*

Article.	Unit or Quantity.	CANADA.								UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.(a)			
		Ottawa.				Montreal.				Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.
		Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.	Feb.	May.	Aug.	Nov.				
		cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.	cents.
Bread .. ..	2 lb.	20.0	20.0	20.0	21.4	20.0	20.0	20.0	21.4	28.0	28.0	29.2	29.4
Flour, ordinary ..	"	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.6	14.2	14.2	14.4	14.4	19.4	19.6	19.9	19.8
Tea .. ..	lb.	107.0	108.2	108.6	108.6	106.0	107.6	109.2	109.8	..	..	..	..
Jam .. ..	1½ lb.	(b) 34.8	(b) 35.5	(b) 36.0	(b) 37.4	(b) 35.4	(b) 35.7	(b) 36.6	(b) 39.1	..	..	..	..
Sugar .. ..	lb.	9.9	9.8	10.3	11.7	9.7	9.7	10.0	11.4	9.6	9.4	10.1	10.0
Rice .. ..	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.4	16.5	16.9	17.5
Oatmeal .. ..	"	11.0	11.3	11.8	12.7	10.6	11.0	11.9	12.4	12.9	12.9	12.9	13.4
Raisins .. ..	"	18.4	18.3	18.0	21.0	18.3	18.1	18.6	18.9	..	..	..	..
Peaches, canned ..	30-oz. tin	40.1	40.5	41.0	42.0	41.0	41.0	41.4	42.8	..	..	..	..
Potatoes .. ..	7 lb.	21.7	..	28.1	16.6	18.9	..	19.3	15.9	32.9	35.2	34.4	26.1
Onions .. ..	lb.	9.5	8.2	8.9	5.9	8.4	8.3	9.5	6.7	7.6	6.7	7.2	5.3
Milk .. ..	quart	18.0	18.0	18.0	19.0	17.5	17.5	17.5	18.5	20.5	19.7	20.5	21.8
Butter .. ..	lb.	66.1	59.3	57.3	61.5	64.5	57.8	55.4	59.6	73.3	71.3	72.0	74.6
Cheese .. ..	"	59.8	58.2	59.0	59.8	58.8	57.8	58.4	59.4	52.1	51.5	51.6	52.2
Eggs .. ..	dozen	43.2	48.6	63.2	75.6	48.0	49.5	63.3	69.6	48.8	50.0	63.4	71.5
Bacon .. ..	lb.	77.1	76.7	78.7	76.0	74.6	73.0	74.4	72.9	58.9	60.0	69.2	66.5
Beef, sirloin .. ..	"	70.5	82.3	91.9	84.8	74.4	88.4	101.1	94.2	..	..	..	..
" rib .. ..	"	68.9	79.3	86.6	81.9	69.3	76.6	86.6	81.8	68.2	73.4	78.3	76.7
" steak, rump ..	"	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	84.2	93.0	99.2	96.8
Pork chops .. ..	"	58.0	56.4	65.0	63.8	55.3	52.0	61.2	62.0	66.4	78.9	83.7	73.0

(a) Average for all towns.

(b) Strawberry jam.

## SECTION IV.—RETAIL PRICES.

"Court" Index (Second Series) (a)—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Price Index-Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed Houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure. December Quarter, 1949 to December Quarter, 1950.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 87.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1949.	1950.			
	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES—</b>					
Sydney .. .. .	129.2	131.8	136.0	140.3	146.1
Newcastle .. .. .	126.0	128.1	132.1	135.0	141.6
Broken Hill .. .. .	138.5	140.4	143.2	149.3	155.7
Goulburn .. .. .	127.6	130.0	135.2	138.9	144.7
Bathurst .. .. .	125.9	128.3	132.4	136.5	142.7
Five Towns (b) .. ..	129.1	131.6	135.8	140.0	145.9
<b>VICTORIA—</b>					
Melbourne .. .. .	128.0	130.5	134.1	136.5	143.2
Ballarat .. .. .	123.5	126.6	128.7	131.6	138.1
Bendigo .. .. .	123.8	127.1	130.0	133.0	138.5
Geelong .. .. .	126.7	129.8	132.5	135.6	140.8
Warrnambool .. .. .	126.2	129.0	133.1	136.6	143.3
Five Towns (b) .. ..	127.7	130.3	133.8	136.2	142.8
<b>QUEENSLAND—</b>					
Brisbane .. .. .	121.1	123.0	125.8	128.9	134.5
Toowoomba .. .. .	122.4	124.3	126.5	130.1	135.8
Rockhampton .. .. .	121.7	124.2	127.1	130.2	137.1
Townsville .. .. .	125.6	127.8	131.0	132.9	138.7
Bundaberg .. .. .	119.5	121.8	125.0	127.9	134.6
Five Towns (b) .. ..	121.5	123.4	126.2	129.3	135.1
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Adelaide .. .. .	125.2	126.6	129.8	132.8	139.8
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo .. .. .	116.5	118.2	121.5	124.4	130.7
Port Pirie .. .. .	123.1	124.6	127.7	130.5	138.9
Mount Gambier .. .. .	120.2	122.2	126.3	131.8	141.1
Peterborough .. .. .	123.4	124.8	128.3	130.5	136.6
Five Towns (b) .. ..	124.8	126.2	129.3	132.5	139.5
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA—</b>					
Perth, Fremantle .. .. .	126.9	128.6	131.9	134.5	139.8
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. .. .	134.3	136.6	140.5	143.7	148.4
Northam .. .. .	127.6	129.9	133.2	135.8	140.4
Bunbury .. .. .	128.0	130.4	133.2	136.8	142.0
Geraldton .. .. .	132.3	134.5	138.3	141.2	146.6
Five Towns (b) .. ..	127.6	129.3	132.7	135.4	140.6
<b>TASMANIA—</b>					
Hobart .. .. .	126.9	126.5	130.5	134.5	139.2
Launceston .. .. .	123.9	123.8	127.4	131.6	136.5
Burnie .. .. .	122.3	123.2	126.9	129.8	136.2
Devonport .. .. .	121.6	122.9	126.4	129.3	136.6
Queenstown .. .. .	124.9	124.4	127.9	132.0	135.2
Five Towns (b) .. ..	125.5	125.3	129.1	133.1	138.0
Thirty Towns(b) .. ..	127.2	129.4	133.1	136.4	142.5
Six Capitals(b) .. .. .	127.5	129.7	133.4	136.7	142.9

## SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Warwick (Q.) .. .. .	120.9	122.3	124.5	128.2	133.3
Port Augusta (S.A.) .. .. .	124.0	125.5	128.6	132.4	139.5
Whyalla (S.A.) .. .. .	124.4	125.8	129.4	132.0	139.9
Canberra (A.C.T.) .. .. .	130.7	133.1	136.3	140.4	146.9

(a) See page 39 for explanation.

(b) Weighted average.

NOTE.—To convert "Court" Index (First Series) (Base = 81.0) to Second Series (Base = 87.0) multiply First Series by factor 1.0741 and to convert Second to First Series, multiply by factor 0.931.

SECTION IV.—RETAIL PRICES—*continued*.

"Court" Index (Third Series) (a)—In the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—Quarterly Retail Price Index-Numbers.—Food, Groceries, Housing (4 and 5-roomed houses), Clothing and Miscellaneous Household Expenditure. December Quarter, 1950 to December Quarter, 1951.

(Base : Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1923-27 = 103.0.)

Cities and Towns.	1950.	1951.			
	December Quarter.	March Quarter.	June Quarter.	September Quarter.	December Quarter.
New South Wales—					
Sydney .. .. .	173.0	180.1	193.1	206.7	216.3
Newcastle .. .. .	167.6	177.5	190.8	201.5	213.3
Broken Hill .. .. .	184.3	188.9	199.7	209.1	224.7
Goulburn .. .. .	171.3	179.1	191.3	205.0	215.8
Bathurst .. .. .	169.0	175.8	187.9	201.2	210.1
Five Towns (b) ..	172.8	180.0	193.0	206.3	216.1
Victoria—					
Melbourne .. .. .	169.5	176.9	189.4	198.7	209.3
Ballarat .. .. .	163.5	171.4	187.9	197.5	207.9
Bendigo .. .. .	163.9	171.1	182.4	194.0	204.6
Geelong .. .. .	166.7	175.3	190.0	198.1	207.4
Warrnambool .. .. .	169.7	176.8	187.7	201.5	210.9
Five Towns (b) ..	169.1	176.5	189.2	198.5	209.0
Queensland—					
Brisbane .. .. .	159.2	166.0	174.8	184.9	199.2
Toowoomba .. .. .	160.8	167.1	175.6	187.5	200.2
Rockhampton .. .. .	162.4	167.9	179.1	187.3	200.8
Townsville .. .. .	164.2	170.0	180.4	191.6	206.6
Bundaberg .. .. .	159.4	165.5	175.7	184.5	196.8
Five Towns (b) ..	159.9	166.4	175.7	185.8	199.8
South Australia—					
Adelaide .. .. .	165.6	170.6	184.3	195.0	204.9
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	154.8	160.2	170.7	188.3	198.1
Port Pirie .. .. .	164.4	168.3	180.1	195.3	202.3
Mount Gambier .. .. .	167.0	172.4	187.4	199.3	208.2
Peterborough .. .. .	161.8	166.9	180.7	193.7	203.3
Five Towns (b) ..	165.2	170.2	183.8	194.8	204.6
Western Australia—					
Perth, Fremantle .. .. .	165.5	176.3	188.1	196.8	204.8
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. .. .	175.7	183.5	196.3	205.4	214.0
Northam .. .. .	166.2	178.3	189.7	197.2	205.0
Bunbury .. .. .	168.1	177.0	187.9	198.0	207.2
Geraldton .. .. .	173.6	186.3	197.8	206.2	215.2
Five Towns (b) ..	166.5	177.1	189.0	197.6	205.7
Tasmania—					
Hobart .. .. .	164.9	172.6	186.5	198.8	208.4
Launceston .. .. .	161.6	171.8	184.1	201.3	207.5
Burnie .. .. .	161.2	168.9	179.4	194.4	202.8
Devonport .. .. .	161.8	166.8	177.4	193.3	200.0
Queenstown .. .. .	160.1	166.5	177.9	195.4	204.7
Five Towns (b) ..	163.4	171.8	184.7	199.0	207.4
Thirty Towns (b) ..	168.8	176.1	188.4	199.8	210.1
Six Capital Cities (b) ..	169.2	176.4	188.7	200.1	210.3

## SPECIAL TOWNS NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES.

Warwick (Q.) .. .. .	157.8	163.8	174.6	185.4	197.5
Port Augusta (S.A.) .. .. .	165.2	169.4	181.0	195.5	204.8
Whyalla (S.A.) .. .. .	165.7	171.8	183.1	198.5	207.6
Canberra (A.C.T.) .. .. .	173.9	180.3	192.1	206.3	216.6

(a) See page 39 for explanation.

(b) Weighted Average.

## SECTION V.

**Retail Prices.**

RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE STATISTICIANS HELD AT CANBERRA, 20TH NOVEMBER TO 22ND NOVEMBER, 1950.

## "C" SERIES RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

**Post-war Review.—**

- (a) That Conference noted the views expressed by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration on the index and the Court's use of the index especially in relation to matters referred to in Conference Resolution 14 (d) (ii) of 1949.
- (b) That the index should continue as a strict price index, and all Statisticians should continue to make it clear that the index does not purport to measure changes in the "cost of living" (irrespective of standard).
- (c) That the post-war review of the index (Conference Resolutions 14 and 15 of 1949) should be undertaken by the Commonwealth Statistician in the light of Conference discussions of principles and of key problems.
- (d) That this post-war review should proceed in conjunction with State Statisticians as may be arranged by correspondence.
- (e) That it is desirable to preserve the continuity of the index as a measure of price variations from period to period as fully as is consonant with changing circumstances.
- (f) That, while the regimen of the index should be varied or supplemented in the light of changed or changing circumstances, it should not be unduly distended by the addition of numerous items of small importance.
- (g) That the item "fresh milk" be divided into two items "loose milk" and "bottled milk", half the weight being allotted to each. In towns where quotes for bottled milk are not available, a price should be imputed from the local price of loose milk on the ratio of the price of bottled milk to the price of loose milk in the appropriate metropolitan area.



## SECTION VI.

**Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Male Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1950.**

NOTE.—These rates are quoted from the latest Awards, Determinations, or Agreements which were in force at 31st December, 1950. Where two or more Award, Determination, or Agreement Rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wage have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. In certain cases of this nature the wages are shown in the form (say) 160s. 0d. to 177s. 6d., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shown in the form 170s. 6d. and 177s. 6d., indicating that there are only two minimum or standard rates in force for different classes or grades of work, and that there are no intermediate minimum or standard rates. Except where otherwise specified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are 40. (See footnotes below).

**GROUP I.—WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND TIMBER YARDS.**

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Coopering—</b>						
Coopers .. ..	217 0	232 0	205 0	210 0	230 1	252 0
<b>Furniture—</b>						
Cabinetmakers ..	215 0	209 6	197 0	205 6	209 6	207 6
Carpet Planners ..	215 0	209 6	..	205 6	211 6	207 6
Chairmakers ..	215 0	209 6	197 0	205 6	209 6	207 6
French Polishers ..	215 0	209 6	197 0	205 6	208 0	207 6
Upholsterers ..	215 0	209 6	197 0	205 6	208 0	207 6
Woodcarvers ..	215 0	209 6	197 0	205 6	208 0	207 6
Wood Machinists ..	215 0	192/ to 209/6	197 0	188/ to 205/6	200 6	190/ to 207/6
<b>Mattress Making—Wire—</b>						
Finishers .. ..	203 6	192 0	190 7	188 0	190 6	190 0
Makers .. ..	203/6 & 210/	209 6	190 7	205 6	200 6	207 6
<b>Picture Framing—</b>						
Compo. Workers ..	199 0	202 0	173 0	198 0	191 6	200 0
General Hands ..	199 0	192 0	173 0	188 0	191 6	190 0
Gilders .. ..	199 0	192 0	173 0	188 0	191 6	190 0
Mount Cutters ..	199 0	192 0	173 0	188 0	191 6	190 0
<b>Sawmilling and Timber Yards—</b>						
Box and Casemakers	195 0	192 0	170 6	188 0	181 6	190 0
Labourers .. ..	179 0	176 0	169 6	172 0	169 0	174 0
<b>Machinists—</b>						
Box Printing ..	186 6	183 6	..	179 6	..	181 6
Boult's Carver ..	211 6	208 6	192 0	204 6	204 0	206 6
Nailing .. ..	187 0	184 0	170 6	180 0	181 6	182 0
Planing .. ..	196/6 & 211/6	193/6 & 208/6	171 6	189/6 & 204/6	189/6 & 204/6	191/6 & 206/6
Shaping .. ..	211 6	208 6	192 0	204 6	204 0	206 6
Ordermen .. ..	198 6	195 6	177 0	191 6	190 0	193 6
Saw Doctors ..	230 0	227 0	201 8	223 0	221 6	225 0
<b>Sawyers—</b>						
Hand or Jig ..	196/ to 217/	193/ to 214/	199 6	189/ to 210/	191/6 & 202/6	191/ to 212/
Circular .. ..	197/ & 209/6	194/ to 206/6	179 6	190/ & 202/6	191/6 to 201/	192/ to 204/6
Stackers .. ..	182/ & 189/	179/ & 186/	169 6	175/ & 182/	180 0	177/ & 184/
Wood Turners ..	211 6	208 6	178 10	204 6	202 0	206 6

**GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.**

Industry & Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Agricultural Implements</b>						
Assemblers ..	197 0	186/ & 190/	173 0	182/ & 186/	182/6 & 188/6	192 0
Bulldozermen ..	218 6	191 0	..	187 0	..	213 6
Drillers .. ..	193/ to 217/	187 0	..	183 0	218 6	188/ to 212/
Fitters .. ..	197/ to 217/	192/ to 199/	..	188/ to 195/	194/6 & 197/6	192/ to 212/
Labourers—unskilled	174 0	171 0	..	167 0	166 6	169 0
Machinists—Iron ..	193/ to 217/	190/ to 214/	..	186/ to 210/	218 6	188/ to 212/
Painters—Brush ..	188 0	185 0	..	181 0	..	183 0
Scroll .. ..	188 0	194 0	..	190 0	..	183 0
Patternmakers ..	230 0	227 0	..	223 0	231 6	225 0
Sheet Iron Workers	202 0	199/ & 214/	..	195/ & 210/	..	197 0
Strikers .. ..	188/ & 190/	185/ & 187/	..	181/ & 183/	189 6	183/ & 185/

**Various numbers of hours constituting a full week's work.**

(1) 34 hours. (2) 36 hours. (3) 37½ hours. (4) 38 hours. (5) 38½ hours (77 per fortnight). (6) 39 hours. (7) 44 hours. (8) 55 hours. (9) 56 hours (10) 35 to 40 hours. (11) 40 and 38 hours. (12) 76 hours per fortnight. (13) 42 hours.

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
<b>Boiler Making—</b>						
Journeymen ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
Railwaymen ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
<b>Brassworking—</b>						
Coremakers ..	193/ to 217/	190/ to 214/	206 0	186/ to 210/	218 6	188/ to 212/
Dressers ..	195/ & 197/	192/ & 194/	181 6	188/ & 190/	191/6 & 193/6	190/ & 192/
Finishers ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Furnacemen ..	199/ to 202/	196/ to 199/	183/ to 201/6	192/ to 195/	195 6	194/ to 197/
Moulders ..	193/ to 217/	190/ to 214/	193/ & 206/	186/ to 210/	218 6	188/ to 212/
<b>Cycles—</b>						
Assemblers ..	184 6	191/6 & 199/	186/ & 206/	190/ & 202/6	185/6 & 190/6	193 0
Frame Builders ..	195 0	199/ & 200/3	201 6	199/ & 214/	199 6	198 0
Repairers ..	195 0	199/ & 200/3	201 6	199/ & 214/	199 6	207 6
Turners (Cycle) ..	195 0	214 0	201 6	199/ & 214/	218 6	212 0
<b>Electrical Installation—</b>						
Cable Jointers ..	212/6 & 215/6	209/6 & 212/6	206 0	205/6 & 208/6	206 0	207/6 & 210/6
Fitters ..	217 0	214 0	208 9	210 0	218 6	212 0
Mechanics ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
Patrolmen ..	190/6 & 205/	187/6 & 202/	179 11	183 6	206 0	185/6 & 200/
Wiremen ..	205 0	202 0	206 0	198 0	206 0	200 0
Other Adults ..	174 0	171 0	172 0	167 0	166 6	169 0
<b>Electrical Supply—</b>						
Armature Winders ..	229 0	214 0	208 9	210 0	218 6	212 0
Cable Jointers ..	229 0	209/6 & 212/6	206 0	205/6 & 208/6	206 0	207/6 & 210/6
Instrument Makers ..	238 6	229 6	208 9	225 6	218 6	227 6
Linesmen ..	223 0	202 0	206 0	198 0	206 0	200/ to 212/
Meter Testers ..	223 0	194/ & 201/	206 0	190/ & 197/	197/6 & 204/6	192/ & 199/
Patrolmen—Night ..	..	202 0	188 0	183 6	..	200 0
Shift Electricians ..	229 0	214 0	232 9	210 0	..	212 0
Switchboard Attendants ..	..	200 6	172 0	196 6	..	198 6
Other Adults ..	200 0	171 0	172 0	167 0	166 6	169 0
<b>Electrical Trades—</b>						
Fitters ..	217 0	214 0	208 9	210 0	218 6	212 0
Mechanics ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
Wiremen ..	205 0	202 0	206 0	198 0	206 0	200 0
<b>Electroplating—</b>						
Platers ..	187/ to 217/	184/ to 214/	206 0	180/ to 210/	185/6 to 218/6	182/ to 212/
Polishers ..	195 0	199 0	184/ & 206/	188 0	196 6	197 0
<b>Engineering—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	218 6	215 6	210 6	211 6	218 6	213 6
Borers and Slotters ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Brassfinishers ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Coppersmiths ..	218 6	215 6	207 6	211 6	218 6	213 6
Drillers—Radial ..	189/ to 212/6	186/ to 209/6	182 0	182/ to 205/6	218 6	184/ to 207/6
Fitters ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
Millers ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Patternmakers ..	230 0	227 0	219 0	223 0	231 6	225 0
Planers—						
Rail and Plate, Edge ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	182 0	195/ & 210/	191 6	197/ & 212/
Other ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Shapers ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	218 6	197/ & 212/
Turners ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
<b>Ironworking—Assistants—</b>						
Boilermakers' Helpers ..	188 0	185 0	179 0	181 0	189 6	183 0
Labourers ..	188 0	185 0	169 10	181 0	166 6	183 0
Engineers' Labourers ..	188 0	185 0	169 10	181 0	189 6	183 0
Furnacemen's Assistants ..	188 0	185 0	169 10	181 0	188 6	183 0
Moulders' Labourers ..	188 0	185 0	169 10	181 0	189 6	183 0
Strikers ..	188/ & 190/	185/ & 187/	169 10	181/ & 183/	189 6	183/ & 185/

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP II.—ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Moulding—Iron—</b>						
Coremakers—Machine ..	193/ to 204/	190/ to 201/	206 0	186/ to 197/	205 6	188/ to 199/
„ Other ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	218 6	212 0
Dressers and Fettlers ..	188/ to 198/	185/ to 195/	181 6	181/ to 191/	191/6 & 193/6	183/ to 193/
Furnacemen ..	194/ to 212/6	191/ to 209/6	183/ to 201/6	187/ to 205/6	195/6 to 198/6	189/ to 207/6
Moulders—Machine ..	193/ to 204/	190/ to 201/	193 0	186/ to 197/	205 6	188/ to 199/
„ Other ..	217 0	214 0	206 6	210 0	218 6	212 0
<b>Sheet Metal Working—</b>						
Canister Makers ..	191 0	188 0	180 0	184 0	185 6	186 0
Japanners—						
Coating or Brush-work ..	187 0	184 0	191 0	180 0	..	182 0
Ornamental ..	202 0	199 0	191 0	195 0	..	197 0
Solderers ..	187/ & 191/	184/ & 188/	191 0	180/ & 184/	182 6	182/ & 186/
Tinsmiths ..	202/ & 217/	199/ & 214/	206 0	195/ & 210/	212 6	197/ & 212/
<b>Nailmaking—</b>						
Case Wirens ..	185 0	171 0	..	158 0	..	..
Labourers ..	185 0	171 0	..	158 0	..	..
Setters Up ..	204 0	188 0	..	158/ to 172/6	..	..
<b>Wire Working—</b>						
Journeymen ..	185 0	191 0	167 0	173 0	177 0	..

## GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Aerated Water and</b>						
Cordials—						
Bottlers ..	185 0	182 0	174 0	185 0	181 6	180 0
Drivers (Motor) ..	196/6 to 207/	193/6 to 204/	175/ to 183/	189/6 to 200/	189/6 & 192/6	191/6 to 202/
„ (One Horse) ..	188 6	185 6	173 0	181 6	182 0	183 6
Packers ..	182 0	179 0	171 0	182 0	175 0	177 0
Writers ..	182 0	179 0	171 0	182 0	175 0	177 0
<b>Baking (Bread)—</b>						
Board hands ..	220 0	19/223 4	194/ to 199/	210 6	219 0	212 0
Carters (One Horse) ..	205 0	198 0	181 0	181 6	187/6 & 192/6	183 6
Doughmen ..	230/ & 232/6	223 4	201 6	220 6	224 0	212 0
Ovenmen ..	227 6	223 4	199 0	210 6	219 0	212 0
Singlehands ..	225 0	232 6	201 6	215 6	224 0	219 6
<b>Baking (Biscuits and</b>						
Cakes)—						
Adult Males ..	171 0	179 0	168 6	171 0	178 6	163 0
Bakers ..	197 6	201 0	179 0	188 0	187 6	198 0
Mixers ..	186/ & 190/	200 0	179 0	186 0	189 6	202 6
<b>Brewing—</b>						
Adult Males ..	199 0	198 0	175 0	182 0	191 6	198 0
Bottlers and Washers ..	199 0	198 0	175 0	182 0	191 6	198 0
Cellarmen ..	199/ & 204/	206 3	185 0	197 0	196 6	198 0
Drivers (Two Horses) ..	205 0	196 0	179 0	185 0	191 6	191 0
„ (Motor under 3 tons) ..	213 0	209 9	179/ to 187/	188 0	201 6	191/6 & 197/6
Towermen ..	204 0	207 0	175 0	185 0	194 6	206 0
<b>Butchering (Carcass)—</b>						
Chilling Room Hands ..	191/ & 196/	255 6	177 0	226 9	186 6	222 0
Labourers (Beef) ..	195 0	218 6	177 0	219 9	182 6	200 0
„ (Mutton) ..	187 0	218 6	177 0	219 9	182 6	200 0
Sealders ..	235 0	229 0	194 6	294 0	182 6	203 6
Slaughtermen (Beef) ..	275 0	281 3	202 6	294 0	211 6	232 0
„ (Mutton) ..	(a)	281 3	202 6	294 0	211 6	232 0

(a) Piecework rates.

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Butchering (Retail)—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Carters (Cash Cutting)	207 0	204 0	196 0	200 0	205 0	202 0
" (One Horse) ..	192 0	185 6	181 0	185 0	180 6	183 6
General Hands ..	210 0	207 0	199 0	203 0	205 0	205 0
Shopmen ..	210 0	207 0	199 0	203 0	205/ & 210/	205 0
Smallgoodsmen ..	215 0	212 0	204 0	208 0	205 0	210 0
<b>Cold Storage and Ice—</b>						
Chamber Hands ..	195/ & 205/	255 6	170 6	190 0	191 6	213 9
Pullers and Stackers..	186/ & 205/	233 6	173 9	190 0	191 6	213 9
<b>Confectionery—</b>						
Journeyman ..	207 0	192/ to 204/	176 6	190/ & 196/	198 6	190/ to 202/
Storemen ..	183 0	189 0	169 0	185 0	191 6	186 0
<b>Ham and Bacon Curing—</b>						
Curers—First Hand ..	222 0	241 6	215 7	238 6	211 6	225 6
Cutters Up—First Hand	206 6	241 6	209 2	238 6	202 6	225 6
Ham Baggers ..	..	214 0	200 6	211 0	..	198 0
Lardmen ..	195 0	214/ to 226/	200 6	211/ to 223/	..	198 0
Rollers and Trimmers	213 0	226 0	194 0	223 0	190/ & 202/6	210 0
Scalders ..	206 0	226 0	206 6	223 0	202 6	210 0
Slaughtermen ..	223 0	241 6	217 11	238 6	211 6	232 0
Smallgoodsmen—						
First Hand ..	214 0	232 9	215 7	229 9	211 6	216 9
Smokers—First Hand	206 0	226 0	206 5	223 0	211 6	210 0
<b>Jam Making and Pre-</b>						
<b>serving—</b>						
Adult Males ..	183 0	183 0	171 6	183 0	175 6	180 0
Solderers ..	192 0	192 0	191 0	192 0	182 6	189 0
<b>Maiting—</b>						
Maltsters ..	201 0	203 0	175 0	182 0	191 6	203 0
<b>Milling—Condiments—</b>						
Grinders ..	209 0	196 0	..	..	..	..
Mixers or Blenders ..	209 0	196 0	165 6	..	..	..
Stone Dressers ..	209 0	206 6	165 6	..	..	..
<b>Milling—Flour—</b>						
Millers—Head ..	244 0	244 0	214 0	244 0	244 0	223 0
" Shift ..	219/ to 244/	219/ to 244/	199/ to 208/	219/ to 244/	219/ to 244/	199/3 to 207/
Packermen ..	204 0	204 0	184 6	204 0	204 0	187 9
Purifiers ..	207 0	207 0	184 6	207 0	207 0	182 0
Sliskmen ..	207 0	207 0	184 6	207 0	207 0	182 0
Storemen—Head ..	209/ & 214/	209/ & 214/	184/6 & 190/	209/ & 214/	209/ & 214/	191 6
Topmen ..	207 0	207 0	187 0	207 0	207 0	187 9
Truckers and Others..	187 0	187 0	176 0	187 0	187 0	182 0
<b>Milling—Oatmeal—</b>						
Kilnmen ..	192 0	191 6	..	..	..	182/ & 186/3
Millers—Head ..	209 0	206 6	..	..	..	208 9
<b>Pastrycooking—</b>						
Carters ..	186 6	185 6	176 0	181 6	182 0	183 6
Pastrycooks ..	206 6	206 6	189/6 & 197/	210 6	201/ & 207/6	204 6

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Bootmaking—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bootmakers ..	199 0	199 0	199 0	199 0	189 3	199 0
<b>Tailoring—Order—</b>						
Cutters ..	290 0	243 0	243 0	243 0	243 0	243 0
Pressers ..	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0
Tailors ..	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0
Trimmers ..	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0
<b>Tailoring—Ready-made—</b>						
Cutters ..	218 0	218 0	218 0	218 0	218 0	218 0
Folders ..	188 0	188 0	188 0	188 0	188 0	188 0
Machinists ..	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0
Pressers ..	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0
Tailors ..	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0	214 0
Trimmers ..	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0	207 0

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Textile-Working—Woollen Mills—</b>						
Carders ..	190 0	190 0	172/ & 175/	185 0	190 0	190 0
Dyehousemen ..	195 0	195 0	172 0	190 0	195 0	195 0
Labourers—General ..	166 0	166 0	168 0	161 0	166 0	166 0
Pattern Weavers ..	201 0	201 0	..	196 0	201 0	201 0
Scourers ..	195/ & 202/6	195/ & 202/6	178/ & 184/	190/ & 197/6	195/ & 202/6	195/ & 202/6
Spinners ..	190 0	190 0	172/ & 179/	185 0	190 0	190 0
Tuners ..	183/ to 213/	183/ to 213/	170 to 197/	178/ to 208/	183/ to 213/	183/ to 213/

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Bookbinders ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Finishers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Marblers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Paper Rulers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
<b>Engraving (Process)—(a)</b>						
Engravers ..	225 0	222 0	..	218 0	226 6	224 0
Etchers—Half-tone ..	229 6	226 6	184 0	222 6	226 6	224 6
Etchers—Line ..	225 0	222 0	179 0	218 0	221 6	220 0
Operators ..	229 6	226 6	184 0	222 6	226 6	224 6
Printers ..	225 0	222/ & 226/6	174 0	218 0	221 6	218 0
Router ..	223 0	220 0	171 0	216 0	212 6	218 0
<b>Lithographing—</b>						
Printers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Rotary Machinists ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Stone Polishers ..	193 0	190 0	182 0	186 0	188 0	188 0
<b>Printing (Daily Newspapers)—</b>						
Compositors—						
Day Work ..	291/ to 298/6	4230/ to 243/	239/6 & 253/	253 0	4250 10	255 0
Night Work ..	306/ to 314/6	4245/ to 258/	259/6 & 263/	273 0	4265 10	275 0
Lhotype Attendants—						
Day Work ..	251/ to 258/6	213 0	224/ & 242/6	235 0	4218 11	237 0
Night Work ..	266/ to 274/6	4228 0	244/ & 252/6	255 0	4233 11	257 0
Lhotype Operators—						
Day Work ..	291/ to 298/6	243 0	218/ & 236/6	253 0	4263 7	255 0
Night Work ..	306/ to 314/6	4258 0	238/ & 246/6	273 0	4278 7	275 0
<b>Machinists (First Hand)—</b>						
Day Work ..	251/ to 263/6	243 0	236/6 & 245/	253 0	4240 9	255 0
Night Work ..	266/ to 279/6	4258 0	255/ & 256/6	273 0	4255 9	275 0
<b>Publishers ..</b>	228/6 to 252/	11210/6 to 225/6	211/6 & 223/	220 0	4215/11 & 4230/11	222 0
<b>Readers—</b>						
Day Work ..	258/6 to 266/	229 6	228/ & 236/6	244 0	4250 10	246 0
Night Work ..	273/6 to 282/	4239 6	246/6 & 248/	264 0	4265 10	266 0
<b>Readers' Assistants—</b>						
Day Work ..	228/6 to 236/	198 0	203/ & 211/6	217 0	4211 2	219 0
Night Work ..	243/6 to 252/	4200/6 to 208/	221/6 & 223/	237 0	4226 2	239 0
<b>Stereotypers (First Class)—</b>						
Day Work ..	246/ to 258 6	4230 6	218/ & 231/6	232 0	4235 11	234 0
Night Work ..	261/ to 274/6	4245 6	238/ & 241/6	252 0	4250 11	254 0

(a) Other than in newspaper offices.

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP V.—BOOKS, PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Printing (Job Offices)—						
Compositors ..	223/ to 233/6	220/ to 230/6	212/ to 222/6	216/ to 226/6	218/ to 228/6	218/ to 228/6
Electrotypers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
General Hands ..	181 0	178 0	170 0	174 0	176 0	176 0
Lino-type Operators ..	233 6	230 6	222 6	226 6	228 6	228 6
Machinists ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Monotype Operators	233 6	230 6	222 6	226 6	228 6	228 6
Monotype Casting						
Machinists ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0
Readers ..	226 6	223 6	215 6	219 6	221 6	221 6
Stereotypers ..	223 0	220 0	212 0	216 0	218 0	218 0

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Brickmaking—						
Burners ..	190/ & 195/	203 0	172 0	194 6	193 6	200 9
Carters—Two horses ..	196 0	193 6	178 0	189 6	189 6	191 6
Drawers ..	208 0	201/3 & 203/9	169 6	199 6	196 6	200 9
Labourers ..	183 0	192 0	164 8	182 0	185 6	198 0
Machinemen ..	196/9 & 202/3	198 3	169 6	193 0	185 6	198 0
Paumens ..	190/ & 205/	195/ to 199/6	164 8	200 6	185 6	198 0
Pitmen ..	202 3	206/3 & 212/3	166 6	207 0	185 6	198 0
Setters ..	208 0	201/3 & 213/9	168 0	199 6	196 6	203 6
Wheelers ..	199 6	194 6	166 6	188 0	189 6	198 0
Brushmaking—						
Base Broom Drawers	202 6	202 0	171 6	203 0	192 6	..
Finishers ..	202 6	202 0	171 6	203 0	192 6	..
Machinists—Boring ..	202 6	187 0	171 6	203 0	192 6	..
Paint Brush Makers ..	210 0	208 3	171 6	203 0	192 6	..
Candle Making—						
Acidifiers ..	187 0	195 6	..	191 6	..	..
General Hands ..	180 6	184/ to 189/	..	182 0	174 6	..
Glycerine Distillers ..	192 9	195 6	..	191 6	189 0	..
Moulders ..	192 9	189 0	..	183 6	..	..
Stillmen ..	198 0	195 6	..	191 6	..	..
Cardboard Box Makers—						
Guillotine and Other						
Cutters ..	196/6 to 208/6	193/6 to 205/6	169 0	189/6 to 201/6	191/6 to 203/6	191/6 to 203/6
Other Adults ..	181 0	178 0	156 6	174 0	176 0	176 0
Coachmaking (Road)—						
Bodymakers ..	217 0	214 0	206 0	210 0	212 6	212 0
Labourers ..	168 0	165 0	165 0	161 0	166 6	163 0
Painters ..	190/6 to 211/6	187/6 to 208/6	200 6	183/6 to 204/6	208 0	185/6 to 206/6
Smiths ..	218 6	215 6	207 6	211 6	212 6	213 6
Trimmers ..	211 6	208 6	200 6	204 6	208 0	206 6
Wheelmaking						
ebinists ..	217 0	214 0	200 6	210 0	202 0	212 0
Wheelwrights ..	211 6	208 6	200 6	204 6	208 0	206 6
Fellmongering—						
Bate Hands ..	191 0	187 0	192 0	184 0	181 6	183 0
Green Hands ..	191 0	187 0	192 0	184 0	181/6 & 185/3	183 0
Limepit Men	191 0	187 0	192 0	184 0	181 6	183 0
Machinists ..	191/ to 196/6	187/ to 195/6	192/ to 200/6	184/ to 192/6	181/6 & 185/3	183/ to 191/6
Soakhole Men	194 0	190 0	195 0	187 0	185 3	186 0
Wool Sorters ..	206/6 & 216/6	205/6 & 212/6	207/6 & 217/6	199/6 & 209/6	197 9	198/6 & 208/6

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Gas Making and Supply—</b>						
Coke Trimmers ..	193 0	183 0	170 0	182 0	177 6	181 0
Gas Fitters ..	226 0	219 6	212 0	219 0	236 9	212 0
Labourers ..	180 0	177 0	170 0	173 0	177 0	175 0
Mainlayers ..	189 0	194 0	188 6	213/ & 228/	196 0	192 0
Metermakers ..	215 0	212 0	202 0	214 0	210 6	212 0
Meter Testers ..	194/ & 203/	220 0	180 0	199 0	196 6	195 0
Service Layers ..	209 0	200 0	188 6	219 0	196 0	198 0
Stokers ..	204 0	195 0	197 0	197 0	187 0	193 0
<b>Glassfounding—</b>						
Furnacemen ..	206 6	197/6 to 212/6	189/6 to 204/6	193/6 to 208/6	195/6 to 210/6	..
Labourers ..	178 0	181 0	173 0	177 0	179 0	..
Lehrmen ..	188 0	189 0	181 0	185 0	187 0	..
Sorters ..	189 0	186/6 & 193/	178/6 & 185/	182/6 & 189/	184/6 & 191/	..
<b>Glass Working and Glazing</b>						
Bevellers ..	222 6	209 6	201 6	205 6	208 0	207 6
Cutters and Glaziers ..	215 0	209 6	201 6	205 6	208 0	207 6
Lead Light Glaziers ..	215 0	209 6	207 0	205 6	208 0	207 6
Silverers ..	222 6	209 6	201 6	205 6	208 0	207 6
<b>Jewellery, Clock and Watchmaking—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	215 0	214 0	178 6	210 6	214 0	..
Engravers ..	223 0	214 0	178/6 & 184/	212 6	214 0	..
Mounters ..	215 0	214 0	178/6 & 184/	218 6	214 0	..
Setters ..	223 0	204 6	..	218 6	214 0	..
Watch and Clock-makers and Repairers	230 0	191/ & 216/	191 6	216/ & 218/6	216 6	195/ & 225/
<b>Masonry—Marble and Stone—</b>						
Carvers ..	255 8	254 9	211 0	232 0	223 0	..
Machinists—						
Carborundum ..	229 0	211/3 & 222/9	211 0	192/6 & 203/	189 6	213 0
Other ..	229 0	211/3 & 231 6	211 0	192/6 & 203/	189/6	213 0
Masons ..	229 0	231 6	211 0	211 0	223 0	213 0
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Guillotine Cutters ..	203 6	200 6	192 6	196 6	198 6	198 6
Machinists ..	203/6 & 211/	200/6 & 208/	192/6 & 200/	196/6 & 204/	198/6 & 206/	198/6 & 206/
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Beatermen ..	212 0	207/6 to 214/	..	..	..	208 0
Breakermen ..	193 0	190 0	..	..	..	..
Guillotine Men ..	194 0	191 0	..	..	..	185 0
Machinists ..	218 0	212/ to 232/	..	..	..	209/ to 226/
Ragboltermen ..	192 0	188 0	..	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	185 0	182 0	..	..	..	176 0
<b>Potteries—General—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	194 0	193 0	180 6	199 6	198 6	196 0
Hollow-ware Pressers ..	200 0	186 0	172 0	180 0	..	206 0
Sanitary Pressers ..	206 0	187 0	172 0	180 0	180/ & 188/	206 0
Throwers—1st Class ..	207/ to 210/	195 0	183 0	199/ & 214/	..	209 0
<b>Potteries—Pipemaking—</b>						
Burners—Head ..	201 0	193 0	179 6	199 6	194 0	196 0
Drawers ..	202 6	184 0	169 6	189 6	190 6	..
Moulders ..	205 6	177 0	166 6	199 6	193 0	193 6
Mould Makers ..	205 6	195 0	177 0	186 0	190 6	..
Setters ..	202 6	190 0	168 0	195/6 & 199/6	190 6	196 0
<b>Quarrying—</b>						
Borers—						
Hand or Machine ..	205 0	207 0	169 2	191 0	184 6	190 0
Dressers ..	213 8	217 6	172 10	191 0	184 6	184 0
Facemen ..	201 5	211 6	169 2	191 0	184 6	184 0
Hammermen ..	205 0	222 6	169 2	191 0	180 6	184 0
Machine Feeders ..	202 4	214 0	164/7 & 168/8	191 0	188 6	190 0
Quarrymen ..	213 8	..	172 10	191 0	180 6	191 6

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP VI.—OTHER MANUFACTURING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Rubber Working—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Calendar Hands ..	200/ & 205/	197/ & 202/	175/ & 179/	195 6	..	..
Cycle Tyre Makers ..	182 0	179 0	..	..	..	188 6
Dough Mixers ..	182 0	179 0	171 6	179 6	..	..
Hosemakers ..	184/ & 191/	181/ & 188/	171 6	..	..	..
Mechanical Lathe Hands ..	184/ & 188/6	181/ & 185/6	171 6	181 6	..	..
Mill Hands ..	182/ & 191/	179/ & 188/	171 6	191 0	..	..
Spreaders ..	185/ & 191/	182/ & 188/	171 6	..	..	..
Surgical, Packing, and other Makers ..	184/ & 193/	181/ & 190/	165/ to 171/6	..	..	..
Tyre Moulders ..	182/ & 188/6	179/ & 185/6	176 0	183 6	..	188 6
<b>Saddlery and Harness-making—</b>						
Harness makers ..	205 0	202 0	194 0	198 0	202 6	200 0
Saddlers ..	205 0	202 0	194 0	198 0	202 6	200 0
<b>Sail Making—</b>						
Sailmakers ..	205 0	202 0	194 0	198 0	..	200 0
<b>Ship Building—</b>						
Carpenters and Joiners ..	239 0	239 0	239 0	239 0	239 0	239 0
Dockers (a) ..	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/
Painters (a) ..	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/	185/ to 200/
Shipwrights ..	222 6	222 6	222 6	222 6	222 6	222 6
<b>Soap Making—</b>						
General Hands ..	180 6	184/ to 189/6	172 6	185 0	174 6	171 0
Mixers ..	192 9	189/ to 194/	172 6	182/ & 185/	..	171 0
Soap Makers ..	219 0	196 6	172 6	192 6	183 6	191 0
<b>Tanning and Currying—</b>						
Beamsmen ..	212 6	209 6	201 6	205 6	207 6	207 6
Curriers ..	228 6	225 6	217 6	221 6	223 6	223 6
Japanners or Enamellers ..	212 0	209 0	201 0	205 0	207 0	207 0
Lithmen ..	205 6	202 6	194 6	198 6	200 6	200 6
<b>Machinists—</b>						
Fleshing ..	217 6	214 6	206 6	210 6	212 6	212 6
Scouring ..	203 6	200 6	192 6	196 6	198 6	198 6
Splitting ..	219/6 to 226/6	216/6 to 223/6	208/6 to 215/6	212/6 to 219/6	214/6 to 221/6	214/6 to 221/6
Unhairing ..	212 6	209 6	201 6	205 6	207 6	207 6
Rollers and Strikers ..	211/ & 213/6	208/ & 210/6	200/ & 202/6	204/ & 206/6	206/ & 208/6	206/ & 208/6
Tablemen ..	207/6 & 213/6	204/6 & 210/6	196/6 & 202/6	200/6 & 206/6	202/6 & 208/6	202/6 & 208/6
<b>Tent and Tarpaulin Making—</b>						
Cutters ..	199 0	196 0	188 0	192 0	..	194 0
Machinists ..	199 0	196 0	188 0	192 0	..	194 0
Sewers—Hand ..	199 0	196 0	188 0	192 0	..	194 0
Tent Makers ..	199 0	196 0	188 0	192 0	..	194 0

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Building—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bricklayers—						
Sewer and Tunnel ..	241 0	253 5	211 6	237 6	240 3	223/6 & 233/6
Surface ..	231 0	242 6	211 6	237 6	235 3	218 6
Carpenters ..	231 0	224 6	214 0	220 6	236 9	216 6
Labouring (Builders) (b) ..	190 6	187 6	190 6	183 6	190 10	185 6
Lathers ..	231 0	224 6	211 6	220 6	236 9	218 6
Metal Cellars ..	231 0	224 6	214 0	220 6	236 9	218 6
Masons ..	229 0	231 6	211 0	237 6	233 9	218 6
Painters, Paperhangers ..	223 0	242 6	211 6	206 3	234 3	218 6
Signwriters ..	233 0	242 6	211 6	206 3	234 3	218 6

(a) Permanent rate.  
sick pay.

(b) Rate excludes allowances for statutory holidays, following the job and



## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP VII.—BUILDING—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Building—continued—</b>						
Plasterers—						
Sewer or Tunnel ..	236 0	241 4	219/ & 225/6	235 4	240 3	223/6 & 233/6
Surface ..	231 0	237 6	211 6	235 4	235 3	218 6
Plumbers, Gasfitters..	232 0	242 6	211 6	216 0	236 9	224 0
Slaters ..	231 0	242 6	211 6	..	207 6	..
Tilers (Roof) ..	231 0	242 6	211 6	209 6	207 6	..
Tuckpointers ..	231 0	242 6	211 6	237 6	..	..
<b>Water Supply and</b>						
<b>Sewerage—</b>						
Concrete Workers ..	203/3 to 212/5	207 0	174/ to 190/6	175/ & 178/	175 6	184/ & 187/
Labourers ..	197/1 to 207/10	187 0	165/ to 177/6	158 0	166 6	175 0
Miners—Sewer ..	<sup>10</sup> 217/6 to 237/	192/ & 202/	190/6 & 195/6	183/ & 193/	180/ & 196/6	184/ & 196/
Pipe-jointers and Setters ..	207/10 to 213/1	202 0	170 6	178/ to 184/	184/6 & 193/6	187/ & 210/

## GROUP VIII.—MINING.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Coal Mining—</b>						
Blacksmiths ..	223 3	222 6	208 2	..	255 1	215 10
Bracemen ..	219 1	205 6	197/ to 214/1	..	..	200 5
Carpenters ..	227 0	224 0	206/2 to 222/10	..	..	205 0
Deputies ..	262 8	239 11	251/8 to 267/1	..	<sup>6</sup> 258 3	239 6
Engine Drivers—						
Winding and Loco.	220/10 to 242/5	211/11 to 216/6	205/2 to 236/	..	236 3	210/11 & 213/10
Other ..	207/4 to 219/11	211 6	199/9 to 225/5	..	..	202/2 to 210/11
Labourers—						
Surface ..	204 6	202/7 & 209/3	194/1 to 210/4	..	198 9	200 5
Underground ..	207 5	202/7 & 210/1	194/1 to 210/4	..	<sup>6</sup> 207 6	200 5
Miners—						
Machine ..	(a)	(a)	213/3 to 236/2	..	<sup>6</sup> 245 7	222 1
Manual—Dry Work	(a)	(a)	(a)	..	<sup>6</sup> 221 8	..
Platmen or Banksmen	..	219 3	194/1 to 210/4	..	<sup>6</sup> 204 9	..
Shiftmen—						
Dry Work ..	226 7	219 3	207/ to 222/10	..	<sup>6</sup> 221 8	214 2
Wet Work ..	234 1	226 9	216/3 to 232/1	..	..	221 8
Shotfirers ..	247/5 & 252/1	233 0	244/7 to 260/	..	<sup>6</sup> 245 7	217 1
Timbermen..	221/7 to 226/7	219 3	207/ to 222/10	..	<sup>6</sup> 221 8	214 2
Weighmen ..	208 9	216 7	235 0	..	246 0	209 2
Wheelers ..	208/3 to 210/9	210 11	197/5 to 215/9	..	<sup>6</sup> 210 3	200 5
<b>Gold and Other Mining</b>						
(except Coal)—					(b)	
Battery Feeders ..	190/ to 196/	175/ to 178/	170 4	190 0	222 1	183/ to 188/
Bracemen ..	192/ to 198/	180/ & 183/	175 10	190/ & 197/6	<sup>6</sup> 227 1	197 /to 198/

(a) Piece-work rates.

(b) Excludes district allowances.

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP VIII.—MINING—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Gold and Other Mining (except Coal)—<i>contd.</i></b>					(a)	
Engine Drivers— Stationary ..	174/ to 210/	196/ to 207/6	163/ to 220/	..	233/4 to 242/6	195/ to 205/
Winding and Loco.	180/ to 219/	197/ to 221/6	178/ to 210/	190 0	237/1 to 281/3	195/ to 205/
Firemen ..	169/6 to 186/	191/ & 196/	163/ to 182/9	..	223/9 to 232/6	183/ to 193/
Labourers ..	182/ to 191/	175/ to 178/	170 4	199 0	214 7	183/ to 195/
<b>Miners—</b>						
Machine ..	202/ to 208/6	181/ to 184/	175/10 to 184/	..	234/7 to 244/7	194/ to 208/
Manual— Dry Work ..	202/ to 211/	187/ to 193/	175 10	199 0	227/1 to 237/1	197/ to 202/
Wet Work ..	209/6 to 218/6	196/ to 202/	183 4	206 6	236/1 to 246/1	204/6 to 209/6
Platmen ..	192/ to 205/6	180/ to 183/	175 10	..	227 1	197/ & 198/
Shaft Sinks— Dry Work ..	205/ to 211/	190/ to 193/	175 10	199 0	232/1 to 244/7	203/ to 208/
Wet Work ..	212/6 to 218/6	199/ to 202/	183 4	206 6	241/1 to 253/7	210/6 to 215/6
Timbermen ..	203/ to 221/6	187/ to 195/	184 0	199 0	237/1 to 244/7	200/ to 210/

## GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Railways—</b>						
Engine Drivers (Loco.)—						
1st Class ..	255/ & 258/	239/ to 254/	234 9	236/ to 251/	242/6 to 250/6	236/ to 251/
2nd Class ..	249 0	236 0	225 5	233 0	233 6	233 0
3rd Class ..	240 0	227 0	217 9	224 0	223 0	224 0
4th Class ..	221 6	217 6	210 1	214 6	217 6	214 6
5th Class ..	215 0	211 0	210 1	208 0	217 6	208 0
<b>Firemen—</b>						
1st Class ..	208/ & 211/	197/ & 204/	193 0	194/ & 201/	209 6	194/ to 201/
2nd Class ..	205 0	191 0	186 10	188 0	197 6	188 0
3rd Class ..	201 0	185 0	186 10	182 0	190 6	182 0
<b>Guards—</b>						
1st Class ..	225 0	220 6	210 5	211/ & 215/6	216 6	202/6 to 211/
2nd Class ..	216/ & 219/	203/ to 214/6	203 6	206/6 & 209/6	210 6	198 0
3rd Class ..	211/ & 213/	203/ to 214/6	191 8	195/ & 198/	204 6	195 0
<b>Porters ..</b>	182/ to 213/	178/6 to 213/	173/10 to 177/9	161/ to 192/6	169/6 & 189/6	175/ to 198/
<b>Shunters—</b>						
1st Class ..	1224/ & 228/	1219/ & 222/	215 3	205/ & 208/	204/6 to 210/6	202/6 & 206 6
2nd Class ..	1213/6 & 216/6	1211/6 to 214/6	206 5	195/ & 198/	198 6	195 0
3rd Class ..	12194/ to 210/	12192/ & 201/6	202 5	184/ & 191/6	195 6	190 0
Ordinary ..	12194/ to 204/	12192/ & 201/6	186 8	184/ & 191/6	195 6	187 0
<b>Signalmen—</b>						
Special ..	12243 0	12236 0	201/4 & 211/2	208/ & 217/	221 0	..
1st Class ..	12240 0	12225 6	199 4	202 6	207 6	198 0
2nd Class ..	232 0	212 6	193 6	198 0	198 6	195 0
3rd Class ..	224 0	204 6	186 6	191 6	188 0	190 0
4th Class ..	216 0	200 0	180 9	187 0	183 6	190 0

(a) Excludes district allowances.

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP IX.—RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRANSPORT—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Tramways (Electric)—</b>						
Car Washers or Cleaners	178 0	185 0	168 7	172/ & 175/	174 6	177 0
Conductors—						
1st Year ..	183 0	185 0	167/6 & 170/6	175/ & 177/	193 6	178 6
2nd Year ..	192 0	191 0	170/6 & 174/	177 0	193 6	182 6
3rd Year ..	192 0	191 0	174/ & 180/	181 0	193 6	182 6
Labourers ..	173 0	179 0	165 0	173/ & 176/	166 6	177 0
Maintenance Men	182/ & 185/	188 0	165/ to 177/8	178/ & 181/	181 6	181 0
<b>Motormen—</b>						
1st Year ..	195 0	185 0	167/6 & 170/6	177 0	193 6	180 0
2nd Year ..	195 0	191 0	170/6 & 174/	180 0	193 6	184 0
3rd Year ..	195 0	191 0	174/ & 180/	183 0	193 6	184 0
<b>Overhead Wiremen—</b>						
Leading ..	215 6	202 0	221 0	198 0	211 0	193 0
Other ..	183/6 to 206/6	185 0	206 0	181 0	202 0	187 0
Pitmen ..	198 0	199 0	183/ to 186/	178/ to 186/	193 6	188 6
Signalmen ..	210/ to 213/	194/ to 202/	176/ to 180/	197/ to 202/	..	..
Track Cleaners	178 0	185 0	164 0	173/ & 176/	176/6 & 190/6	177 0

## GROUP X.—OTHER LAND TRANSPORT.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Carrying—Merchandise—</b>						
Carriers—						
One Horse ..	191 0	185 6	173 0	181 6	182 0	183 6
Two Horses ..	196 0	193 6	178 0	189 6	189 6	191 6
Corporation Carters—						
One Horse ..	191 0	185 6	173 0	181 6	182 0	183 6
Two Horses ..	196 0	193 6	178 0	189 6	189 6	191 6
Jinkers—						
One Horse ..	191 0	195 0	180 0	191 0	191 6	193 0
Two Horses ..	196 0	202 6	185 0	198 6	196 6	200 6
Sanitary Carters	254/ & 259/	191 6	174 0	187 6	219 0	189 6
Stable Hands	190/6 & 195/6	180 0	163 0	176 0	178 6	178 0
<b>Motor Lorries and Wagons—</b>						
Under 3 tons ..	193/ to 203/	193/6 & 199/6	175/ & 183/	189/6 & 195/6	189/6 & 192/6	191/6 & 197/6
3 tons or over ..	207/ to 211/	204 0	188/ & 193/	200 0	196/6 to 201/6	202 0
<b>Lift Attendants—</b>						
Goods ..	186 0	184 0	165/ & 167/	178 6	177 0	..
Passenger ..	186 0	184 0	159/ & 161/	178 6	177 0	..

## SECTION VI.—continued.

## GROUP XI.—SHIPPING, WHARF LABOUR, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Waterside Working—</b>						
Wharf Labourers per hour a	s. d. 6 0	s. d. 6 0	s. d. 6 3 and 6 5	s. d. 6 0	s. d. 6 0	s. d. 6 0
<b>Passenger Vessels—Interstate b—</b>						
Bakers per month			774/6 to 907/(c)			
Barmen "			774/6(d)			
Butchers "			807/ to 882/(c)			
Cooks—						
Chief "			959/6 & 1,002/(c)			
Second "			862/(c)			
Third "			774/6(c)			
Ships "			839/6(c)			
Pantrymen "			797/ & 807/			
Scullerymen "			747/			
Stewards—						
Chief Saloon "			1032/ to 1192/(d)			
Second "			852/(d)			
Second Saloon "			819/6(d)			
Fore Cabin "			807/(d)			
Bedroom and Other "			762/ to 784/6(d)			
<b>All Vessels—Interstate—</b>						
A.B. Seamen per month			809/6			
Boatswains "			829/6			
Donkeymen "			869/6			
Firemen "			849/6			
Greasers "			849/6			
Lamp Trimmers "			829/6			
Fuel Trimmers "			809/6			
<b>Marine Engineers b e f—</b>						
Chief per month		Vessels (Steam). 100 N.H.P. and under. 1,180/ to 1,260/		Vessels (Steam). Over 100 N.H.P. 1,303/ to 1,854/		
Second "		1,081/		1,081/ to 1,301/		
Third "		1,004/		1,004/ to 1,149/		
Fourth "		..		932/6 to 1,077/		
5th, 6th, 7th and 8th "		..		920/6		
<b>Merchant Service b f g—</b>						
Masters per month		Seagoing Passenger Vessels. 125 Tons or under. Over 10,000 tons.		Seagoing Cargo Vessels. 60 tons or under. Over 10,000 tons.		
Officers—		1,195/6	2,811/	1,067/6	2,173/	
Chief "		1,036/6	1,301/	976/6	1,211/	
Second "		974/6	1,199/	924/6	1,129/	
Third "		..	1,087/	..	1,027/	
Fourth and Fifth "		..	920/6	..	920/6	

(a) Rates of wage quoted are for other than special cargo. (b) Rates of wage quoted are in addition to victualling and accommodation. (c) Not more than 8 hours per day. (d) Not more than 8 hours per day within a spread of 15 consecutive hours when at sea, between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. in terminal ports and between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. in intermediate ports. (e) Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified according to nominal horse-power of vessels. (f) Ordinary length of duty in a day at sea or in port or partly at sea and partly at port shall be 8 hours. (g) Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage; the lowest and highest classes for interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given.

## GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Farming—</b>						
Harvesters ..	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0	s. d. *168/ to 205/4 *160 0
<b>Milkers ..</b>						
<b>Chaffcutting—</b>						
Feeders (Travelling plant)	202/ & 205/	192 6	..	177 0	173/6 to 201/	*275 0
Feeders (Stationary mill)	202/ & 205/	186 6	..	177 0	173/6 to 201/	*275 0

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP XII.—AGRICULTURAL, PASTORAL, ETC.—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Queensland.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.
<b>Gardening—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Gardeners ..	194 6	190 0	168 0	180 0	180 6	184 0
„ Labourers ..	188 0	180 0	160 6	175 0	174 6	178 0
Nurserymen ..	194 6	187/6 & 198/	168 0	181 6	184 6	184 0
„ Labourers	188 0	171 0	160 6	175 0	174 6	178 0
<b>Pastoral Workers a—</b>						
Cooks ..	426 6	426 6	478/3 & 496/8	426 6	420 0	426 6
Shearers .. per 100	109/9 & 115/7	109/9 & 115/7	105 3	109/9 & 115/7	100/9 & 108/7	109/3 & 115/1
Shed Hands ..	291 2	291 2	321 3	291 2	309 3	291 2
Wool Pressers ..	306 8	306 8	355 8	306 8	342 8	306 8
<b>Rural Workers—</b>						
Fruit Harvesters ..	171/ to 173/	170/ to 173/	..	168/ to 173/	..	168/ & 169/

(a) Shearers' and woolpressers' hours are 40 per week; shed hands' hours are the same as shearers with such additional time as may be necessary to finish picking up fleeces, &c. Should the time engaged picking up, &c., exceed 30 minutes per day, all time thereafter must be paid as overtime. The hours of cooks are not regulated.

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC

NOTE.—The rates of wage specified for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Cooks (Hotels and Restaurants)—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Chefs ..	201/ to 235/	198/ to 232/	192/ & 198/	193/ to 227/6	196/6 & 206/6	194/ to 228/
Cooks—Second ..	195/ to 217/6	192/ to 214/6	183 0	192/ to 208/	179/ & 186/6	188/ to 210/6
Cooks—Third ..	195/ to 217/6	192 0	183 0	188 0	176 6	188 0
Kitchenmen ..	185 0	182 0	170 6	163 0	166 6	178 0
<b>Maidressing—</b>						
Hairdressers ..	205 0	201 0	169/6 & 177/	211 0	196 6	195 0
<b>Hotels—</b>						
Barmen ..	195 0	192 0	180 0	194 0	192 6	188 0
Billiard Markers ..	185 0	182 0	168 0	163 0	166 6	178 0
Handymen ..	185 0	182 0	168 0	163 0	166 6	178 0
Lift Attendants ..	185 0	184 0	159 0	178 6	166 6	178 0
Porters—Day Work ..	185 0	182 0	168 0	165 0	171 6	178 0
Porters—Night Work ..	185 0	182 0	175 0	165 0	176 6	178 0
Waiters—Head ..	195 0	192 0	173 0	177/6 & 178/6	..	188 0
Waiters—Other ..	185 0	182 0	168 0	171 0	171 6	178 0
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantrymen ..	180 6	179 0	164 6	161 6	166 6	173 6
Waiters ..	180/6 to 183/	179 0	164 6	168 0	171 6	170/ & 173/5

## GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Factory Engine Driving—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Engine Drivers (Stationary)—						
1st Class ..	202/ & 208/6	199/ & 205/6	194 0	195/ & 201/6	187 0	197/ & 203/6
2nd Class ..	197/ & 202/	194/ & 199/	183 0	190/ & 195/	187 0	192/ & 197/
3rd Class ..	197/ & 202/	194/ & 199/	172 6	190/ & 195/	183 0	192/ & 197/
<b>Firemen—</b>						
1st Class ..	197 0	194 0	168 0	190 0	183 6	192 0
2nd Class ..	192 0	189 0	..	185 0	176/6 to 182/6	187 0
Greasers ..	188/ & 197/	185/ & 194/	168 0	181/ & 190/	195 6	183/ & 192/
Trimmers ..	184 0	181 0	164 0	177 0	180 0	179 0

SECTION VI.—*continued.*GROUP XIV.—MISCELLANEOUS AND GENERAL LABOUR—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Municipal—</b>						
Labourers ..	188 0	181 0	165 0	163 0	169 0	175 0
Street Sweepers ..	188 0	187 0	165 0	170/ & 172/	169/ & 175/6	178 0
<b>Shop and Other Assistants</b>						
Boot Salesmen ..	207 0	199 0	186 0	185 0	191 6	197 6
Chemists' Assistants ..	230 0	247 6	195 6	191 0	190/10 & 201/9	211/ & 216/
Clerks ..	193/6 to 205/	200 6	181 6	185 0	203 6	169/ to 209/
Drapery Salesmen ..	207 0	199 0	186 0	185 0	191 6	197 6
Furniture Salesmen ..	207 0	202 0	186 0	185 0	191 6	190 6
Grocery Salesmen ..	207 0	195 0	186 0	180 0	191 6	175/6 to 198/6
Hardware Salesmen ..	207 0	199 0	186 0	185 0	191 6	164/ to 204/
Railway Bookstall Assistants ..	207 0	189 6	186 0	185 0	191 6	164/ to 204/
Tobacconists' Assts. ..	207 0	199 0	186 0	179 0	191 6	200 0
<b>Storemen — Packing, Cleaning, &amp;c.—</b>						
Night Watchmen ..	191 6	175 6	162 0	179 3	194 0	..
Office Cleaners ..	196 0	179 0	159/ & 164/	158 0	182 6	178 0
Packers—General ..	191/6 & 194/6	193 0	176 0	189 0	191 6	186 0
Storemen—General ..	190/ & 192/6	193 0	176 0	189 0	191 6	186 0
<b>Wholesale Grocery—</b>						
Packers ..	195 0	192/ & 197/6	176 0	184 0	191 6	186 0
Storemen ..	192 0	192/ & 197/6	176 0	184 0	191 6	186 0
<b>Wholesale Hardware—</b>						
Packers ..	195/ & 198/	189 0	176 0	184 0	191 6	186 0
Storemen ..	192/ & 195/	189 0	176 0	184 0	191 6	186 0

## SECTION VII.

Minimum Rates of Wage for Adult Female Workers in the Main Occupations in the Capital City of Each State for a Full Week's Work at 31st December, 1950.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 162.)

## GROUP III.—FOOD, DRINK, TOBACCO, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Biscuit Making— Adult Females ..	125 9	141 3	114 6	145 9	111 7	120 0
Confectionery— Adult Females ..	137 6	135 0	112 0	145 9	115 1	133 6
Jam Making and Pre- serving— Fillers ..	149 3	149 3	120 9	149 3	(a)94 1	149 3
Other Adults ..	140 3	140 3	120 9	140 3	(a)94 1	140 3
Tea Packing— Head Women ..	..	150 6	117/6 to 133/6	..	..	..
Other Adults ..	123 6	133 0	112 6	131 10	(a)99 1	..
Tobacco Working (Cigars)— Ringers ..	125 6	121 6	110/6 to 126/	..	104 1	..
Wrapper Leaf Strippers	128/6 & 138/6	129 0	110/6 to 126/	..	104 1	..

## GROUP IV.—CLOTHING, TEXTILES, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bootmaking— Machinists — Wax						
Thread ..	142 6	142 6	142 6	142 6	(a)114 1	142 6
Other Adults ..	135 0	135 0	135 0	135 0	(a)106 7	135 0
Dressmaking— Adult Females ..	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/
Dyers and Cleaners— Adult Females ..	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0
Hat Making (Straw)— Finishers & Machinists	123 6	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0
Millinery— Adult Females ..	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0
Shirt Making— Adult Females ..	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0	126 0
Tailoring (Order)— Machinists— Coat Hands ..	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0	156 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6
Tailoresses— Coat Hands ..	172 0	172 0	172 0	172 0	172 0	172 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6	143 6
Tailoring (Ready-made)— Machinists— Coat Hands ..	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0
Tailoresses— Coat Hands ..	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0	146 0
Trousers, Vest Hands	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0	141 0
Textile Working (Woolen Mills)— Comb Minders ..	137 6	137 6	104 0	134 0	137 6	137 6
Darners and Menders	136/6 & 139/6	136/6 & 139/6	109 6	133/ & 136/	136/6 & 139/6	136/6 & 139/6
Warpers ..	139 6	139 6	106 6	136 0	139 6	139 6
Weavers—Loom ..	142 6	142 6	109 6	139 0	142 6	142 6
Other Adults ..	124 6	124 6	104 0	121 0	124 6	124 6
Underclothing— Adult Females ..	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/	126/ to 156/

(a) Not comparable with previous years.

SECTION VII.—*continued.*

GROUPS I., II., V., AND VI.—PRINTING AND OTHER MANUFACTURING.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Bedding and Furniture—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Bedding Machinists ..	127 0	141 6	118 8	138 6	124 1	140 0
Picture Frame Workers	132 0	129 0	129/6 & 158/7	126 0	124 1	127 6
<b>Bookbinding—</b>						
Folders and Sewers ..	147 6	145 6	139 6	142 6	144 0	144 0
<b>Brush Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	135 0	126/ & 128/	104 6	150 3	108/7 & 110/1	..
<b>Candle and Soap Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	123 6	134 0	107 3	131 0	(a) 98 7	128 3
<b>Cardboard Box Making—</b>						
Box Makers ..	145/6 & 152/	143/6 & 150/	137/6 & 144/	140/6 & 147/	142/ & 148/6	142/ & 148/6
Other Adults	136/ to 148/	134/ to 146/	128/ to 140/	131/ to 143/	132/6 to 144/6	132/6 to 144/6
<b>Jewellery—</b>						
Chainmakers ..	215 0	(a) 128 6	126 0	..	113 1	..
Gliders ..	137 0	(a) 128 6	116 0	159 6	113 1	..
Polishers ..	137 0	(a) 128 6	116 0	159 6	113 1	..
Scratch Brushers ..	137 0	(a) 128 6	116 0	159 6	113 1	..
<b>Leather Goods—</b>						
Adult Females ..	(a) 139 9	(a) 137 6	(a) 131 6	(a) 134 6	119 1	(a) 136 0
<b>Paper Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	125 6	123 6	..	..	..	122 0
<b>Paper Bag Making—</b>						
Adult Females ..	136/ to 145/6	134/ to 143/6	128/ to 137/6	131/ to 140/6	132/6 to 142/	132/6 to 142/
<b>Potteries—</b>						
Adult Females ..	125 6	121 6	109 6	..	(a) 94 1	..
<b>Printing—</b>						
Jobbing Office Assistants ..	147 6	145 6	139 6	142 6	144 0	144 0
Lithographic Feeders	147 6	145 6	139 6	142 6	144 0	144 0
<b>Rubber Working—</b>						
Adult Females ..	128 6	126 6	121 0	140 0	..	..
<b>Tent and Tarpaulin Making</b>						
Machinists ..	139 9	137 6	131 6	134 6	(a) 99 1	136 0

## GROUP XIII.—DOMESTIC, HOTELS, ETC.

NOTE.—The rates of wage mentioned herein for employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where board and lodging are not provided.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
<b>Hotels—</b>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
Barmaids ..	153 6	192 0	138 6	..	192 6	148 6
Housemaids ..	137 6	135 6	119 0	135 0	111 7	132 6
Laundresses ..	141 6	139 6	125 0	141 6	111 7	136 6
Waitresses—Head ..	143 6	141 6	124 0	140 6	..	138 6
„ Other ..	137 6	135 6	119 0	135 0	111 7	132 6
<b>Laundries—</b>						
General Hands ..	123 6	121 6	109 0	142 6	113 1	121 6
Machinists—						
Shirt and Collar ..	125 0	128 6	109 0	145/6 & 149/6	113 1	121 6
Sorters ..	125 0	121 6	109 0	145/6 & 149/6	113 1	121 6
Starchers ..	123 6	128 6	109 0	145/6 & 149/6	113 1	121 6
Washers ..	123 6	128/6 & 180/6	109 0	145/6 & 180/	113 1	132/6 & 142/6
<b>Office Cleaning—</b>						
Adult Females ..	132/6 to 136/6	161 0	122/6 & 155/6	118/6 & 124/6	113 7	..
<b>Restaurants—</b>						
Pantry Maids ..	123 6	121 6	113 0	133 0	109 1	133 6
Waitresses ..	123 6	121 6	113 0	134 6	111 7	130 0

(a) Not comparable with previous years.



SECTION VII.—*continued.*

## GROUP XIV.—SHOP ASSISTANTS, CLERKS, ETC.

Industry and Occupation.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
<b>Clerks &amp;c.—</b>						
Cashiers .. ..	145 6	145 0	140 6	145 6	124 1	120 0
Clerical Assistants ..	143 6	145 0	140 6	145 6	124 1	120 0
<b>Saleswomen—</b>						
Boot .. ..	145/6 & 207/	137 0	131 6	140 6	112/11 & 118/2	(a)124/ & 146/8
Drapery .. ..	(a)145/6 & 207/	(a)137 & 194/6	(a)131/6 & 186/	(a)140/6 & 185/	112/11 & 118/2	(a)124/ & 146/8
Fruit and Confectionery	(a)132/6 & 145/6	133 0	131 6	140 6	112 11	120 0
Newsagent and Book- stall .. ..	145 6	122/ & 126/	131 6	140 6	112 11	122 0
Tobacconists ..	145 6	166 0	131 6	139 6	112 11	120 0

(a) Not comparable with previous years.

# SECTION VIII.

## Weekly Rates of Wage and Hours of Labour : Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand.

(Wages are quoted in the currency of the country concerned.)

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
<b>Furniture—</b>												
Cabinet Maker .. ..	107 0	44	215 0	40	82 3	47	128 4	44	110 0	40	168 8	40
Upholsterer .. ..	107 0	44	215 0	40	82 3	47	128 4	44	110 0	40	168 8	40
French Polisher .. ..	107 0	44	215 0	40	82 3	47	128 4	44	110 0	40	168 8	40
<b>Sawmilling—</b>												
Machinist, Planing .. ..	91 0 and 100 0	44	196 6 211 6	40	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	168 8	40
Machinist, Shaping .. ..	105 0	44	211 6	40	..	..	..	..	103 4	40	168 8	40
Sawyer, Band or Jig .. ..	95 0 to 108 0	44	196 0 to 217 0	40	..	..	..	..	96 8	40	157 10	40
Sawyer, Circular .. ..	95 0 to 102 0	44	197 0 and 209 6	40	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	175 4	40
<b>Engineering, and Metal Working—</b>												
Fitter and Turner .. ..	108 0 and 112 0	44	217 0	40	70 11	47	122 7½	44	110 0	40	174 6	40
Patternmaker .. ..	120 0	44	230 0	40	71 3	47	..	..	110 0	40	174 6	40
Moulder (Iron) .. ..	90 0 to 111 0	44	193 0 to 217 0	40	70 11	44	127 3½	44	110 0	40	166 2	40
Tinsmith .. ..	101 6	44	202 0 and 217 0	40	..	..	..	..	110 0	40	167 0	40
<b>Milling (Flour)—</b>												
Miller (shift) .. ..	97 0 to 107 6	44	214 0 to 239 0	40	71 0 and 73 0	42	132 0	42	99 4 (a)	40	162 0 (a)	40
Packerman .. ..	85 0	44	199 0	40	..	..	..	..	95 4	40	157 10	40

(a) Kilman.

SECTION VIII.—*continued.*WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA, GREAT BRITAIN AND NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.		s. d.	
Bootmaker .. .. .	104 0	44	199 0	40	51 6 to 58 0	45	108 0	45	91 8	40	162 0	40
Tailoring (Ready-made)—												
Cutter .. .. .	101 0	44	218 0	40	..	..	..	..	102 6	40	168 8	40
Presser (Coat) .. .. .	98 0	44	207 0	40	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	163 8	40
Trimmer .. .. .	98 0	44	207 0	40	..	..	..	..	92 6	40	168 8	40
Bookbinding—												
Bookbinder .. .. .	108 0	44	223 0	40	80 0	45	134 6	43½	107 6	40	172 0	40
Paper Ruler .. .. .	108 0	44	223 0	40	80 0	45	134 6	43½	107 6	40	172 0	40
Printing (Daily Newspapers)—												
Compositor (Day Work) ..	131 0	44	291 0 to 298 6	40	89 0	45	..	..	107 6	40	172 0	40
Reader (Day Work) .. .. .	139 6	44	258 6 to 266 0	40	..	..	..	..	112 6	40	187 0	40
Printing (Jobbing Offices)—												
Compositor .. .. .	108 0 and 117 0	44	223 0 to 233 6	40	89 0	45	155 0	43½	107 6	40	172 0 and 187 0	40
Linotype Operator (Day Work) ..	117 0	44	233 6	40	..	..	..	..	115 0	40	179 6	40
Building—												
Bricklayer .. .. .	121 0	44	231 0	40	77 0	44	130 2 and 132 0	44	115 0	40	172 0	40
Carpenter .. .. .	121 0	44	231 0	40	77 0	44	130 2 and 132 0	44	112 6	40	175 4	40

# SECTION VIII.—continued.

## WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND HOURS OF LABOUR: AUSTRALIA, GREAT BRITAIN, AND NEW ZEALAND—continued.

Industry and Occupation.	AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY).				GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (LONDON).				NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND).			
	31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.		31st December, 1938.		31st December, 1950.	
	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.	Rates of Wage.	No. of Hours.
<b>Building—continued.</b>	<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>		<i>s. d.</i>	
Labourer—Carpenter's ..	87 0	44	190 6†	40	57 9	44	110 0 and 111 10 110 0 and 111 10 110 0	44	93 4	40	160 6	40
Concrete Worker ..	87 0	44	190 6†	40	..	..	110 0 and 111 10 110 0	44	93 4	40	160 6	40
Earth Excavator ..	87 0	44	190 6†	40	..	..	110 0 and 111 10 110 0	44	93 4	40	160 6	40
Painter .. ..	114 4	44	223 0	40	73 4	44	130 2 and 132 0 130 2	44	110 0	40	163 8	40
Paperhanger .. ..	114 4	44	223 0	40	77 0	44	132 0 and 130 2	44	110 0	40	163 8	40
Plasterer .. ..	121 0	44	231 0	40	77 0	44	132 0 and 130 2	44	115 0	40	176 2	40
Plumber .. ..	125 0	44	232 0	40	77 0	44	130 2 and 132 0	44	110 0	40	172 10	40
<b>Tramways—</b>												
Conductor—												
1st year .. ..	87 0	44	183 0	40	} 73 0 60 82 0	48	116 0 to 125 0	44	95 10 and 100 0	40	152 0 and 155 4 155 4 155 4	40
2nd year .. ..	90 0	44	192 0	40								
3rd year .. ..	93 0	44	192 0	40								
<b>Motormen—</b>												
1st year .. ..	99 0	44	195 0	40	} 73 0 60 82 0	48	116 0 to 125 0	44	100 0 and 103 4	40	162 0 162 0 162 0	40
2nd year .. ..	99 0	44	195 0	40								
3rd year .. ..	99 0	44	195 0	40								
<b>Carrying (Merchandise)—</b>												
Carter (1 horse) ..	92 0	44	191 0	40	60 0 and 61 0	48	108 0	44	93 0	40	149 11	40
<b>Municipal—Labourer</b> ..	94 6	44	188 0	40	58 8 to 64 6	47	115 6	44	90 0	40	157 0	40

† Rate excludes allowances for statutory holidays, following the job and sick pay.

## SECTION IX.

## Basic Wage Rates—1923 to 1952.

*(Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration).*

The following table shows the basic weekly wage rates prescribed for adult males under periodical decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration including automatic variations made in accordance with quarterly changes in the retail price index for the city or combination of cities shown at the head of the table. The amount *legally* payable in any specific instance must be determined by reference to the appropriate award.

- (1) The rates of wages shown include "Powers 3s." (or the equivalent thereof) and Prosperity Loadings, where applicable.
- (2) The 10 per cent. reduction operative from February, 1931, to May, 1934, has been applied.
- (3) Generally the rates operated from the beginning of the first pay period commencing in the month indicated.

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Mel- bourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1923—							
February ..	82 6	82 0	73 0	78 0	73 6	81 6	80 6
May ..	"	81 6	73 6	79 6	74 0	83 0	"
August ..	86 6	87 6	75 0	84 0	79 6	87 6	85 0
November ..	89 0	91 6	76 0	85 6	78 0	89 0	87 6
1924—							
February ..	87 0	87 6	77 6	84 0	76 0	89 6	85 0
May ..	86 0	85 6	77 0	"	78 0	"	84 6
August ..	85 6	85 0	75 0	85 6	78 6	88 6	84 0
November ..	84 6	84 6	"	84 0	79 0	88 0	83 0
1925—							
February ..	85 0	84 0	74 0	83 6	79 6	87 0	83 6
May ..	86 0	85 6	75 0	85 0	81 0	"	84 6
August ..	87 0	87 0	76 6	87 6	82 6	"	85 6
November ..	88 0	87 6	77 0	86 0	81 0	85 6	86 0
1926—							
February ..	89 6	"	78 6	85 6	77 6	86 0	86 6
May ..	90 6	88 6	82 0	86 6	81 6	89 0	88 0
August ..	92 6	92 0	"	89 6	84 0	"	90 6
November ..	91 6	89 0	82 6	85 6	81 6	88 6	88 6
1927—							
February ..	"	88 6	83 0	84 6	80 0	87 0	88 0
May ..	90 6	87 6	80 6	86 0	"	86 6	87 6
August ..	89 6	87 0	78 6	"	80 6	85 6	86 6
November ..	90 6	90 0	79 6	88 0	79 6	85 0	88 0
1928—							
February ..	93 0	89 6	80 6	87 0	80 0	84 0	89 0
May ..	91 6	88 0	79 6	87 6	"	82 6	88 0
August ..	92 0	87 6	"	"	84 0	83 0	"
November ..	90 6	86 0	79 0	85 0	85 0	82 6	87 0
1929—							
February ..	91 0	"	80 0	84 0	"	83 0	"
May ..	95 0	89 6	81 6	88 0	86 0	86 0	90 6
August ..	94 6	90 0	80 6	88 6	86 6	85 6	"
November ..	95 0	"	"	"	85 6	86 0	"
1930—							
February ..	95 6	"	81 0	87 0	83 6	86 6	"
May ..	92 0	86 0	77 6	84 0	82 6	84 0	87 0
August ..	91 0	85 6	73 0	82 6	82 0	"	86 0
November ..	88 0	83 0	70 6	78 0	79 0	82 0	83 0

## SECTION IX.—continued.

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Mel- bourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1931—							
February ..	76 6	70 2	60 9	66 2	66 2	70 2	71 1
May ..	74 3	68 5	60 9	64 4	66 7	68 10	69 4
August ..	72 11	65 8	60 4	62 1	65 8	67 1	67 6
November ..	70 8	63 5	58 6	58 1	62 1	64 4	65 3
1932—							
February ..	68 10	"	"	"	60 9	64 10	64 4
May ..	"	63 11	"	58 11	61 8	65 3	64 10
August ..	68 5	63 0	57 7	58 6	"	65 8	63 11
November ..	67 6	61 8	56 8	57 2	59 5	64 4	63 0
1933—							
February ..	66 7	60 4	55 10	55 4	58 1	63 5	61 8
May ..	67 10	63 4	59 4	59 2	59 9	64 10	64 2
August ..	66 11	62 5	58 10	"	58 10	63 10	63 4
November ..	"	62 10	59 4	59 7	60 3	63 11	"
1934—							
February ..	"	63 4	"	60 2	59 3	64 10	63 9
May ..	67 0	64 0	61 0	*64 0	66 0	*67 0	65 0
June ..	68 0	"	62 0	*65 0	"	"	66 0
September ..	"	"	"	"	68 0	*67 0	"
December ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1935—							
March ..	"	66 0	"	* "	"	*69 0	"
June ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
September ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
December ..	70 0	"	64 0	67 0	"	"	68 0
1936—							
March ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
June ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
September ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
December ..	"	69 0	66 0	69 0	71 0	"	"
1937—							
March ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	70 0
June ..	72 0	"	68 0	"	"	"	"
July ..	75 0	72 0	71 0	70 0	72 0	72 0	73 0
September ..	"	73 0	70 0	71 0	73 0	73 0	"
October ..	78 0	76 0	73 0	73 0	75 0	75 0	75 0
December ..	"	77 0	74 0	74 0	"	"	76 0
1938—							
March ..	79 0	"	"	75 0	74 0	76 0	77 0
June ..	"	"	75 0	"	75 0	"	"
September ..	80 0	78 0	"	76 0	76 0	"	"
December ..	81 0	79 0	"	"	"	"	78 0
1939—							
March ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
June ..	82 0	81 0	77 0	78 0	77 0	77 0	79 0
September ..	81 0	"	76 0	"	"	"	"
December ..	82 0	80 0	"	77 0	"	"	"
1940—							
February ..	"	81 0	77 0	"	"	78 0	80 0
May ..	83 0	82 0	78 0	78 0	"	"	"
August ..	85 0	84 0	79 0	80 0	79 0	80 0	82 0
November ..	"	"	"	"	80 0	81 0	83 0
1941—							
February ..	88 0	86 0	82 0	82 0	81 0	83 0	85 0
May ..	"	87 0	83 0	83 0	82 0	84 0	86 0
August ..	89 0	"	"	"	84 0	85 0	"
November ..	"	88 0	84 0	84 0	85 0	"	87 0

\* Except in special cases these rates were subject to graduated deductions so that the increase granted in May, 1934, was, in effect, introduced in stages over the succeeding twelve months.

SECTION IX.—*continued.*

Date Operative.	Sydney.	Mel- bourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
1942—							
February ..	91 0	89 0	86 0	86 0	86 0	87 0	88 0
May ..	93 0	92 0	88 0	88 0	87 0	88 0	90 0
August ..	95 0	94 0	89 0	91 0	89 0	91 0	93 0
November ..	97 0	97 0	91 0	93 0	91 0	92 0	95 0
1943—							
February ..	98 0	98 0	"	"	92 0	94 0	96 0
May ..	"	"	92 0	"	"	"	"
August ..	100 0	99 0	94 0	94 0	94 0	95 0	98 0
November ..	99 0	98 0	93 0	"	"	"	97 0
1944—							
February ..	"	97 0	"	93 0	93 0	94 0	96 0
May ..	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
August ..	"	98 0	"	"	"	93 0	"
November ..	"	"	"	"	94 0	94 0	"
1945—							
February ..	"	"	"	"	93 0	"	"
May ..	98 0	"	"	"	"	93 0	"
August ..	"	"	"	"	94 0	"	"
November ..	99 0	"	"	"	"	94 0	"
1946—							
February ..	"	"	"	94 0	"	95 0	"
May ..	"	"	94 0	"	"	"	97 0
August ..	100 0	99 0	"	95 0	95 0	96 0	98 0
November ..	101 0	"	"	"	"	97 0	"
December ..	108 0	106 0	101 0	102 0	102 0	103 0	105 0
1947—							
February ..	"	107 0	103 0	"	103 0	104 0	106 0
May ..	110 0	"	104 0	103 0	"	"	"
August ..	"	108 0	"	104 0	104 0	105 0	107 0
November ..	112 0	109 0	105 0	106 0	106 0	107 0	109 0
1948—							
February ..	114 0	113 0	107 0	108 0	107 0	110 0	111 0
May ..	116 0	115 0	110 0	111 0	110 0	112 0	114 0
August ..	120 0	117 0	113 0	114 0	112 0	115 0	116 0
November ..	122 0	120 0	115 0	116 0	116 0	118 0	119 0
1949—							
February ..	124 0	123 0	118 0	119 0	118 0	121 0	122 0
May ..	127 0	125 0	119 0	121 0	120 0	124 0	124 0
August ..	130 0	128 0	122 0	124 0	126 0	127 0	127 0
November ..	132 0	130 0	125 0	126 0	129 0	128 0	129 0
1950—							
February ..	135 0	134 0	127 0	129 0	131 0	131 0	133 0
May ..	138 0	137 0	129 0	131 0	133 0	"	135 0
August ..	142 0	140 0	132 0	134 0	136 0	135 0	138 0
November ..	146 0	143 0	135 0	137 0	139 0	139 0	142 0
December ..	165 0	162 0	154 0	158 0	160 0	160 0	162 0
1951—							
February ..	173 0	170 0	159 0	166 0	166 0	165 0	169 0
May ..	180 0	177 0	166 0	171 0	176 0	173 0	176 0
August ..	193 0	189 0	175 0	184 0	188 0	187 0	189 0
November ..	207 0	199 0	185 0	195 0	197 0	199 0	200 0
1952—							
February ..	216 0	209 0	199 0	205 0	205 0	208 0	210 0

## SECTION X.

## COMPARATIVE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR THE SIX CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED.

(Base of Each Group: Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities, 1911 = 1,000(a).)

Period.	Retail Price Index-numbers.						Nominal Wages, Adult Males.	Real Wages. (c)	Percentage of Unem- ployment among Trade Union- lists.
	Food and Grocer- ies.	Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses). (b)	Food, Groceries and Housing (4 and 5- roomed Houses).	Clothing.	Miscel- laneous.	All Items of House- hold Ex- pendi- ture.			
Year—									%
1911 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	(d) 1,000	(d) 1,000	(d) 1,000	1,000	1,000	4.7
1914 ..	1,144	1,082	1,121	1,140	1,140	1,140	1,081	948	8.3
1921 ..	1,902	1,410	1,717	1,883	1,537	1,680	1,826	1,087	11.2
1929 ..	1,866	1,754	1,824	1,506	1,533	1,713	1,972	1,151	11.1
1932 ..	1,425	1,336	1,390	1,215	1,458	1,377	1,639	1,190	29.0
1933 ..	1,342	1,314	1,332	1,190	1,447	1,335	1,584	1,187	25.1
1939 ..	1,657	1,577	1,626	1,271	1,465	1,526	1,846	1,310	9.7
1940 ..	1,679	1,590	1,644	1,445	1,519	1,588	1,889	1,190	8.0
1941 ..	1,693	1,595	1,654	1,090	1,613	1,673	1,997	1,194	3.7
1942 ..	1,843	1,596	1,742	1,977	1,693	1,809	2,164	1,196	1.6
1943 ..	1,855	1,595	1,749	2,177	1,766	1,876	2,309	1,231	1.1
1944 ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,168	1,773	1,867	2,326	1,246	1.2
1945 ..	1,849	1,595	1,746	2,155	1,767	1,868	2,339	1,252	1.2
1946 ..	1,852	1,596	1,748	2,276	1,776	1,900	2,400	1,263	1.4
1947 ..	1,967	1,597	1,816	2,367	1,825	1,971	2,598	1,318	1.2
1948 ..	2,245	1,601	1,982	2,637	1,913	2,148	2,914	1,357	0.9
1949 ..	2,492	1,605	2,128	3,019	2,037	2,349	3,210	1,367	(e) 2.0
1950 ..	2,800	1,613	2,313	3,455	2,184	2,589	3,596	1,389	0.8
1951 ..	3,649	1,649	2,827	4,156	2,555	3,124	4,495	1,439	0.7
Quarter—									
1939.									
March ..	1,673	1,568	1,631	1,258	1,461	1,524	1,826	1,198	9.6
June ..	1,654	1,575	1,623	1,264	1,461	1,522	1,847	1,214	9.5
September ..	1,645	1,582	1,620	1,264	1,463	1,520	1,854	1,220	10.2
December ..	1,657	1,584	1,628	1,297	1,472	1,536	1,858	1,210	9.3
1944.									
March ..	1,824	1,595	1,731	2,167	1,775	1,864	2,322	1,246	1.0
June ..	1,834	1,595	1,737	2,160	1,773	1,865	2,322	1,245	1.4
September ..	1,852	1,595	1,748	2,166	1,772	1,873	2,327	1,242	1.2
December ..	1,827	1,595	1,733	2,180	1,770	1,867	2,332	1,249	1.2
1945.									
March ..	1,838	1,595	1,739	2,149	1,767	1,863	2,333	1,252	1.1
June ..	1,854	1,595	1,749	2,141	1,767	1,866	2,336	1,252	1.1
September ..	1,860	1,595	1,752	2,140	1,767	1,868	2,340	1,253	1.2
December ..	1,842	1,595	1,742	2,189	1,767	1,874	2,348	1,253	1.2
1946.									
March ..	1,853	1,595	1,748	2,201	1,772	1,881	2,354	1,251	1.4
June ..	1,863	1,595	1,754	2,259	1,776	1,900	2,360	1,242	1.3
September ..	1,839	1,596	1,741	2,299	1,776	1,902	2,378	1,250	1.4
December ..	1,854	1,596	1,750	2,343	1,781	1,918	2,507	1,307	1.4
1947.									
March ..	1,915	1,596	1,785	2,305	1,798	1,933	2,527	1,307	1.4
June ..	1,945	1,597	1,803	2,319	1,802	1,948	2,545	1,306	1.2
September ..	1,974	1,597	1,820	2,367	1,846	1,978	2,630	1,330	1.1
December ..	2,035	1,598	1,857	2,478	1,853	2,026	2,690	1,328	0.9
1948.									
March ..	2,128	1,599	1,912	2,511	1,874	2,071	2,781	1,343	0.9
June ..	2,197	1,600	1,953	2,600	1,900	2,121	2,854	1,346	0.9
September ..	2,278	1,601	2,001	2,688	1,935	2,175	2,970	1,366	0.9
December ..	2,378	1,602	2,060	2,748	1,944	2,225	3,050	1,371	0.8
1949.									
March ..	2,433	1,603	2,093	2,795	1,985	2,263	3,099	1,369	0.8
June ..	2,482	1,604	2,122	2,968	2,017	2,328	3,182	1,367	0.8
September ..	2,497	1,606	2,131	3,080	2,047	2,370	3,249	1,371	(e) 5.5
December ..	2,555	1,608	2,167	3,223	2,098	2,433	3,310	1,360	0.8
1950.									
March ..	2,633	1,609	2,213	3,250	2,134	2,474	3,372	1,363	0.8
June ..	2,718	1,611	2,264	3,418	2,151	2,546	3,458	1,358	0.8
September ..	2,828	1,614	2,330	3,501	2,180	2,609	3,545	1,359	0.8
December ..	3,020	1,618	2,444	3,643	2,271	2,726	4,009	1,471	0.7
1951.									
March ..	3,201	1,641	2,560	3,760	2,381	2,843	4,142	1,457	0.7
June ..	3,443	1,646	2,705	4,151	2,498	3,042	4,387	1,442	0.8
September ..	3,819	1,651	2,928	4,283	2,611	3,224	4,601	1,427	0.6
December ..	4,133	1,656	3,116	4,429	2,731	3,388	4,848	1,431	0.7

(a) The index-numbers given in the separate columns of the table cannot be compared with each other in order to show, for example, the relative cost of housing, and food and groceries, since the cost in 1911 in each group or combination of groups is made equal to 1,000. (b) See footnote (b) on page 10.

(c) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" Series Retail Price Index-number. (d) Taken back from true base (November, 1914) by means of the "A" Series Index (Food and Rent of All Houses).

(e) Includes all members of reporting unions indirectly affected by the industrial dispute in the coal-mining industry; those directly affected are, however, excluded.



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